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Judge challenges SC probe, former CJI's actions in cash case

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Allahabad High Court judge Justice Yashwant Varma said on Friday that the Supreme Court's in-house inquiry process, which recommended his removal from office, is a "parallel, extra-constitutional mechanism" designed for the judiciary to usurp Parliament's exclusive authority.

An in-house inquiry committee of three judges constituted by the then-Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna had confirmed that unaccounted cash was found in the gutted storeroom at Justice Varma's official residence after a blaze on March 14 and 15 this year. Chief Justice Khanna (now retired) had sent the report to the Prime Minister and President in May after Justice Varma refused to resign.

Unconventional move

Now, just days before the Parliament's Monsoon Session is set to open, Justice Varma has resorted to challenging both the report and Chief Justice Khanna's action in the Supreme Court, in a rather unconventional move by a sitting High Court judge.

Justice Varma said the in-house inquiry takes away the exclusive powers of the Parliament – granted under Article 124 and 218 of the Constitution – to remove judges, through an address supported by a special majority after an inquiry under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.

The petition has been filed under an anonymous acronym 'XXX', but describes the petitioner as Allahabad High Court judge.

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Justice Yashwant Varma

Motion to remove judge not related to govt.: Minister

NEW DELHI
Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal on Friday said that the motion of removal against Allahabad High Court judge Yashwant Varma was not related to the government but Parliament. » Page 14

ED arrests Bhupesh Baghel's son Chaitanya

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

The Enforcement Directorate on Friday arrested Chaitanya Baghel, son of former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, in a money laundering case linked to the alleged liquor scam in the State, officials said.

The ED's counsel, Saurabh Pande, said Mr. Chaitanya had allegedly dealt with proceeds of crime amounting to ₹1,000 crore and was "beneficiary" of ₹13 crore.

The agency said it is probing money laundering allegations in the alleged scam that caused a loss of ₹2,161 crore to the exchequer. The agency's remand application said Mr. Chaitanya had earned ₹16.70 crore from the scam.

Arrested on birthday

Mr. Chaitanya is the youngest of Mr. Bhupesh Baghel's four children. He was arrested on his 38th birthday after searches were conducted at the residence of Mr. Bhupesh Baghel in Durg district. Both of them stay in the same house.

On March 10 too, the agency had conducted similar searches against Mr. Chaitanya.

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U.S. adds TRF to terror list for Pahalgam strike

The Resistance Front declared a 'Foreign Terrorist Organisation' and 'Specially Designated Global Terrorist'; External Affairs Minister calls it an 'affirmation of India-U.S. counter-terror cooperation'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

In a move that is being viewed as an endorsement of India's international counter-terror campaign, the United States on Thursday designated The Resistance Front (TRF) as a "Foreign Terrorist Organisation" and "Specially Designated Global Terrorist". The TRF, which is backed by the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba militant group, claimed to be behind the deadly April 22 terror attack that left 26 people dead in Pahalgam.

The Indian government welcomed the U.S. designation of the TRF as a terror group, with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar describing the move as "a strong affirmation of India-U.S. counter-terrorism cooperation". The External Affairs Ministry added that India's cooperation with international partners will continue to ensure "that terrorist organisations and their proxies are held accountable".

'Deadliest attack'

"Today, the Department of State is adding The Resistance Front as a designated Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). TRF, a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) front and proxy, claimed responsibility for the April 22, 2025, Pahalgam attack which killed 26 civilians. This was the deadliest attack on civilians in India since the 2008 Mumbai attacks conducted by LeT. TRF has also claimed responsibility for several attacks against Indian security forces, including most recently in 2024," said U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

He said the move "demonstrates" the Trump administration's "commitment to protecting our national security interests, countering terrorism, and enforcing President Trump's call for justice for the Pahalgam attack".

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SANCTIONS ON PAKISTAN
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Terror trail

The U.S. designation follows India's global campaign against cross-border terrorism launched after the **April 22** Pahalgam terrorist attack

- Following Operation Sindoor, **the Indian government sent a technical team with a comprehensive dossier on The Resistance Front to New York** for presentation
- **The evidence was presented to the 1267 Sanctions Committee** that decides on global listing of terrorist groups
- India had designated the **TRF as a terror outfit under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act** in January 2023

Under scrutiny: Security personnel at the Pahalgam terror attack site in J&K. IMRAN NISSAR

Pakistan's LeT proxy: Founded in 2019 by Muhammad Abbas Sheikh, the TRF is a Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba proxy that claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack

NEARBY

CM releases grant of ₹50 crore to each MLA

BENGALURU
After a series of one-on-one meetings with Congress MLAs and Ministers by AICC general secretary in-charge of State Randeep Singh Surjewala, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has approved the release of ₹50 crore as development grant for each MLA. » PAGE 10

Ad hoardings all set to make a comeback in city

BENGALURU
Advertisement hoardings are all set to make a comeback in the city after they were banned in 2018. The civic body hopes to rake in an additional revenue of ₹500 crore through advertisement fee that ranges between ₹50 and ₹90 a sq. ft of the hoarding. » PAGE 7

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGES 8 & 9

Diving debut

Navy's pride: Union Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth and Naval personnel offer a salute on the launch of India's first indigenously designed and built diving support ship INS Nistar in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh on Friday. V. RAJU (REPORT: PAGE 16)

Govt. demonstrates fake 'verified' X account in HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Union government on Friday presented before the High Court of Karnataka a fake social media account, created by its officials on social media platform X in the name of 'Supreme Court of Karnataka' – an institution that does not exist – to demonstrate how easily such accounts can be created and misused.

The account, which was verified by X, was created solely for demonstrative purposes, Solicitor-General of India Tushar Mehta clarified to the court while showing the account on a mobile phone.

"We have opened one account in the name of 'Supreme Court of Karnataka'... and X has also verified the account. Now I can post anything in that account and lakhs and lakhs of people who view that will say that Supreme Court of Karnataka has said this... and I can remain anonymous," Mr. Mehta said.

The submission was made before Justice M. Nagaprasanna during the hearing of a petition filed by X Corp. (formerly Twitter Inc.), which has challenged blocking orders issued by Central and State authorities under Section 79 of the Information Technology Act.

The platform has alleged that these actions bypass safeguards laid down by the Supreme Court.

The petition also raises objections to the Central government's new 'Sahyog' portal, describing it as a "censorship portal" that enables government agencies to issue blocking orders using a pre-approved template.

Senior advocate K.G. Raghavan, appearing for X, objected to the presentation of the fake account without placing any related material formally on record. The judge, however, noted that the Centre was attempting to show how easily such accounts can be created on intermediary platforms.

Mr. Mehta further clarified that the account had not been used and remained inactive, as it would have entered the public domain otherwise. He added that the intention was only to demonstrate the potential misuse of any social media platform, not just X.

'Account suspended'

Following the conclusion of Mr. Mehta's arguments defending the Sahyog portal and blocking orders, Mr. Raghavan informed the court that the fake account titled "Supreme Court of Karnataka" had now been suspended. He reiterated that X is "a responsible business house".

Legal battle: Advocate appearing for the social media platform had objected to the presentation of the fake account. AFP

Plan to split BBMP into five corporations sent to Governor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The proposal to split Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) into five corporations was sent to the Governor for his approval on Friday. The draft of the proposed boundaries of five corporations was discussed in the Cabinet meeting on Thursday and it was decided to send it for the Governor's approval, sources said.

Facing multiple legal challenges to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024 in the High Court of Karnataka, the State government is being cautious moving ahead, sources said.

As the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) area was notified with the Governor's approval, it was felt that it was better to notify the draft of the proposed five corporations also after his approval, sources added.

The BBMP will notify the boundaries of the proposed five corporations shortly after the Governor approves it and will call for public objections, sources said.

Gujarat refinery hit by EU sanctions over Russia energy links

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The European Union (EU) has sanctioned a Gujarat-based refinery owned by Nayara Energy Ltd. as part of a fresh sanctions package announced on Friday targeting Russia's energy sector. The announcement comes just as the U.S. Congress debates tightening sanctions on purchasers of Russian crude oil, with India, China and Brazil being named by U.S. lawmakers as countries that could face penalties.

Price cap

The new EU sanctions also include a lowering of the oil price cap, i.e., the maximum price countries can pay for Russian oil while using shipping and insurance from the advanced economies of the G7 group of countries, from $60 per barrel to $47.6 per barrel. The sanctions also include an EU-wide import ban on refined petroleum products made from Russian crude oil and a full transaction ban on Nord Stream 1 and 2, natural gas pipelines that connect Russia and Germany. The announcement came after Slovakia's Prime Minister Robert Fico said he would stop blocking the sanctions package over fears for his country's energy security because of a possible total EU ban on Russian gas by 2028.

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DOUBLE STANDARDS
» PAGE 16

Russia's Rosneft has a 49.13% stake in Nayara Energy's refinery in Gujarat. REUTERS

BMTC conductor crashes e-bus into food stall; woman killed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) electric bus conductor attempting to move a parked bus at the Peenya Bus Stand on Friday morning crashed into a roadside makeshift hotel, killing a 25-year-old woman and injuring four others.

The Peenya Traffic Police arrested the 41-year-old conductor, identified as Ramesh. The deceased has been identified as Suma, a private company employee who lived in Sunkadakatte and hailed from Mandya. Of the four injured, two have been discharged from the hospital, while the remaining are out of danger and are expected to be discharged soon.

According to the police, the bus (KA 51 AK 4170) operates between Majestic and Peenya Industrial Area. Around 8.15 a.m. on Friday, the bus arrived at Peenya stand.

The driver stepped away to relieve himself. During this time, Ramesh collected signatures from a BMTC official and attempted to move the bus to make way for other incoming vehicles.

"He started the bus and accelerated forward, but ended up crashing into the roadside food stall. No one was inside the bus, but several people standing near the stall were injured," a police officer told *The Hindu*. The bus reportedly travelled 50 to 80 metres before coming to a stop.

Suma was buying food from the food stall when the bus hit her. She was rushed to a hospital, but succumbed to her injuries later.

The police said Ramesh was previously employed as a BMTC driver and had experience in operating buses, and had taken up conductor duties last year

How well-stocked is Indian Test cricket's pace cupboard?

A penetrative fast-bowling attack is a must for success in the classical format, but there is a slight drop-off in quality after Bumrah and Siraj. There were encouraging signs at Edgbaston and Lord's, with Akash Deep pulling his weight and Nitish Kumar chipping in. However, the uncertainty around Shami's fitness and the seeming lack of convincing depth need addressing

Vivek Krishnan

"It takes 20 wickets to win Test matches," is an oft-repeated dictum pertaining to cricket's oldest format.

It is a statement that serves to underline the importance of bowlers in the five-day version. But when both teams take 20 wickets each, as England and India did in a humdinger at Lord's, there has to be a winner and a loser. At the famous venue in London, England won and India lost.

Stepping up

Among the many aspects that will hurt Shubman Gill's men about the heartbreak in the final session of the final day, it is this that should rankle the most. The fact that the Indian bowlers stepped up to take 20 wickets, bundling England out for just 192 in its second innings, and yet went down by 22 runs to trail 1-2 in the series.

The bowling display was a classic case of an attack being more than the sum of its parts. Each of the six bowlers, including batting all-rounder Nitish Kumar, returned at least a wicket. And they restricted England's run-rate, usually above four per over in the Bazball era, to 3.44 and 3.08 in the first and second innings respectively. Although the two-paced nature of the Lord's pitch contributed, there was really no let-up in pressure from both ends.

Jasprit Bumrah, the mesmerising master of modern-day fast-bowling, led the way. Discounting the oddity that India has lost both Tests he has played in this series, he has lived up to his billing as he invariably does.

With Shami not getting any younger, his Test future may depend on how the likes of Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana fare

His 12 scalps in just two appearances, one behind Mohammed Siraj (13 in three) in the list of highest wicket-takers, already include two five-fors. Despite being confronted with largely benign surfaces – a stark departure from India's previous tours of the Old Blighty – and Dukes balls that have gone soft and out of shape after the first 25-30 overs, the pace spearhead has consistently posed a wicket-taking threat.

Bumrah's sui generis bowling action, the hyperextension of the right arm, the braced front leg and the release point – closer to the batter than the norm – tend to be attributed often as key factors for his brilliance. But perhaps not emphasised as much is his sheer skill and consistency: he is relentlessly accurate in nailing the right lengths and delivers with a perfectly canted seam owing to an impeccable wrist position that enables him to swing the ball either way in suitable surroundings.

As peerless as Bumrah is, however, there is no getting away from the reality that the 31-year-old is not going to be available for every Test, given his history of back injuries. He will only play one of the remaining two Tests in this series.

With that known, it is all the more significant that Siraj and Akash Deep have pulled their weight in the last two Tests. Particularly at Edgbaston, with Bumrah resting after the hard grind at Headingley, they were heroic, sharing 17 wickets between them in a 336-run victory. Siraj silenced his detractors with figures of six for 70 in the first essay. Akash had his moment of recognition in the final innings, snaring six for a 10-wicket match-haul.

As peerless as Bumrah is, there is no getting away from the reality that the 31-year-old is not going to be available for every Test, given his history of back injuries

Curious record

Siraj's performance at Edgbaston drew attention to a rather curious record: in 24 Tests with Bumrah, he has taken 73 wickets at an average of 33.56. In 15 Tests without his senior teammate, he has claimed 40 scalps at 26. Apart from Siraj perhaps not getting his preferred end to bowl from while playing with Bumrah, this may just be a peculiar statistic that shouldn't be read into for definitive conclusions. What can be said with some assertiveness is simply that Siraj is a very good bowler. With or without Bumrah.

GETTY IMAGES

AKASH DEEP AND MOHAMMED SIRAJ

Among the 31-year-old's virtues are a nippy outswinger and a wobble-seam delivery that cuts back sharply into right-handers. That he has a fiercely competitive streak and operates at full intensity all day long without complaint help as well.

If one had to cast a critical gaze, a dash of inconsistency may be behind his merely satisfactory output of 113 wickets after 39 Tests at 30.88. But Siraj would argue that he hasn't had the rub of the green in recent matches. At Lord's alone, he witnessed K.L. Rahul drop Jamie Smith on five off his bowling and a close leg-before appeal against Joe Root turned down.

Beyond Bumrah and Siraj, though, there seems to be a slight drop-off in quality in Indian cricket's pace cupboard. Though Akash put all his experience of toiling away on unresponsive pitches in First Class cricket to good use at Edgbaston, it remains to be seen whether the 28-year-old can handle the onerous exertions of Test cricket. He did hobble off the field in the second innings at Lord's and didn't bowl again.

In style and approach, Akash is perhaps the closest among the newer crop of fast men to Mohammed Shami. Besides playing for Bengal in the domestic circuit, they gallop to the crease, extract seam movement and generally hit a length that keeps the stumps in play.

Which brings us to Shami himself. Soon to turn 35, he made his ODI comeback against England in February after recovering from an ankle surgery and knee trouble, and starred in the victorious Champions Trophy campaign in Dubai. But his appearances in whites stand at 64, having last featured in the 2023 World Test Championship final against Australia. In peak shape, Shami is a boost to any bowling attack, but persistent injury concerns, as chief selector Ajit Agarkar said when the squad was picked, led to doubts about his durability to last five Tests.

With Shami obviously not getting any younger, his Test future may depend on how the likes of Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana fare. If they are able to impress over the next year or so, the veteran could find the door shut. So far, though, Prasidh and Harshit haven't made a very strong case, and Arshdeep remains untested with the red cherry.

History's lesson

The importance of the supporting cast finding its feet at the highest level cannot be overstated, for a robust, well-rounded pace attack is a must for India to thrive in all conditions. A glance at recent history is instructive. In Virat Kohli's tenure as skipper, India competed regularly away from home only because Bumrah, Shami, Ishant Sharma and Umesh Yadav found their bearings at the same time. When India last won a Test series in England in 2007 under Rahul Dravid's captaincy, Zaheer Khan, R.P. Singh and S. Sreesanth were a trio at the top of their game.

There is no magic potion, of course, to expedite the progress of the young pacers, but that is a discussion for the think-tank at a slightly later date. With Bumrah and Siraj leading the pack for now, Gill will just want his bowlers to back up their good work at Lord's and take 20 wickets in India's next Test at Old Trafford. After all, it takes 20 wickets to win Test matches.

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	23	12,030	16
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	8,600	20
3	Alexander Zverev	28	6,310	24
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,035	21
5	Jack Draper	23	4,650	17
6	Novak Djokovic	38	4,130	19
7	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,350	20
8	Holger Rune	22	3,340	23
9	Ben Shelton	22	3,330	24
10	Andrey Rublev	27	3,110	29
11	Frances Tiafoe	27	2,940	25
12	Alex de Minaur	26	2,885	22
13	Casper Ruud	26	2,855	23
14	Daniil Medvedev	29	2,630	21
15	Arthur Fils	21	2,630	20

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 287 ▲ 9 spots

Karan Singh
Rank 434 ▲ 3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	12,420	19
2	Coco Gauff	21	7,669	19
3	Iga Swiatek	24	6,813	16
4	Jessica Pegula	31	6,423	21
5	Mirra Andreeva	18	5,163	19
6	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,803	19
7	Amanda Anisimova	23	4,470	22
8	Madison Keys	30	4,374	19
9	Jasmine Paolini	29	3,576	19
10	Paula Badosa	27	3,454	22
11	Emma Navarro	24	3,420	25
12	Karolina Muchova	28	2,881	17
13	Elena Rybakina	26	2,806	20
14	Elina Svitolina	30	2,794	16
15	Diana Shnaider	21	2,716	27

Top Indians ▶

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 320 ▲ 2 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 333 ▲ 1 spot

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	234	5
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	226	4
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	165	2
4	George Russell	Mercedes	147	1
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	119	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	103	0
7	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	63	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	46	0
9	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	37	0
10	Esteban Ocon	Haas	23	0
11	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	21	0
12	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	20	0
13	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	19	0
14	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	16	0
15	Carlos Sainz	Williams	13	0
16	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	12	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	10	0
18	Oliver Bearman	Haas	6	0
19	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	4	0
20	Franco Colapinto	Alpine	0	0

Oscar Piastri

Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

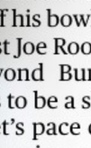
Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	460	9
2	Ferrari	222	0
3	Mercedes	210	1
4	Red Bull	172	2
5	Williams	59	0
6	Kick Sauber	41	0
7	RB	36	0
8	Aston Martin	36	0
9	Haas	29	0
10	Alpine	19	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	97,179	18
2	Anders Antonsen	92,253	17
3	Shi Yu Qi	91,517	13
4	Jonatan Christie	80,614	16
5	Li Shi Feng	79,678	18
6	Chou Tien Chen	78,979	24
7	Kodai Naraoka	73,204	20
8	Alex Lanier	69,471	14
9	Viktor Axelsen	69,440	10
10	Loh Kean Yew	66,719	19
11	Lu Guang Zu	61,860	18
12	Kenta Nishimoto	61,722	23
13	Weng Hong Yang	59,570	17
14	Lee Cheuk Yiu	57,192	20
15	Lin Chun-Yi	56,260	15

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 18


Ayush Shetty
Rank 30

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,11,120	11
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,05,312	17
3	Akane Yamaguchi	86,364	14
4	Han Yue	85,550	17
5	Chen Yu Fei	73,885	10
6	Tomoka Miyazaki	71,964	22
7	Pornpawee Chochuwong	71,058	21
8	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	70,060	13
9	Supanida Katethong	65,107	15
10	Ratchanok Intanon	64,144	19
11	Putri Kusuma Wardani	62,450	17
12	Yeo Jia Min	61,583	17
13	Gao Fang Jie	60,810	12
14	Sim Yu Jin	56,039	15
15	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	54,160	15

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 16

Malvika Bansod
Rank 25

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	888	932
2	Kane Williamson	867	919
3	Harry Brook	862	898
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Yashasvi Jaiswal	801	858
6	Temba Bavuma	790	806
7	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
8	Rishabh Pant	779	801
9	Shubman Gill	765	807
10	Jamie Smith	752	753

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	901	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	851	902
3	Pat Cummins	838	914
4	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
5	Noman Ali	806	806
6	Scott Boland	784	784
7	Matt Henry	782	782
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Marco Jansen	767	803
10	Mitchell Starc	766	807

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Babar Azam	766	898
3	Rohit Sharma	756	882
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	751
6	Charith Asalanka	719	725
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693
10	Kusal Mendis	669	802

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Maheesh Theekshana	671	686
2	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
3	Keshav Maharaj	648	741
4	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
5	Rashid Khan	640	799
6	Mitchell Santner	637	657
7	Matt Henry	622	691
8	Wanindu Hasaranga	619	619
9	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
10	Adam Zampa	614	699

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Travis Head	856	885
2	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
3	Tilak Varma	804	845
4	Philip Salt	791	881
5	Jos Buttler	772	774
6	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
7	Pathum Nissanka	727	722
8	Tim Seifert	708	708
9	Kusal Perera	677	786
10	Yashasvi Jaiswal	673	781

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	723	723
2	Adil Rashid	710	747
3	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
4	Akeal Hosein	697	714
5	Adam Zampa	694	746
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	686	809
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Rashid Khan	664	828
9	Maheesh Theekshana	659	686
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

Home Minister launches 'Mane Manege Police'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Home Minister G. Parameshwara launching the 'Mane Manege Police' initiative at Vijayanagar in Bengaluru on Friday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Home Minister G. Parameshwara on Friday launched 'Mane Manege Police' (Police to Every Home) initiative, aimed at fostering people-friendly policing and bridging the gap between citizens and the police department.

Mr. Parameshwara described the initiative as the first of its kind in the country and emphasised that it would help build a sense of brotherhood and trust between the public and the police. "Let's go to people's doorsteps and listen to their problems. When we solve their issues, they will begin to form a positive opinion about the department," he told police officers during the launch.

As part of the initiative, beat officers at every police station across the State are required to visit homes within their jurisdiction, interact with residents, gather details about their neighbourhoods, and note any law and order concerns they may have.

The officers are expected to record the data collected during these visits, enabling the police to gain a deeper, real-time understanding of their jurisdiction. Although the Home Minister officially launched the programme on Friday, implementation had already begun at the field level.

Dr. Parameshwara said that the initiative would be periodically reviewed and necessary changes would be made based on its effectiveness.

Panic grips city as 40 schools receive hoax bomb threat emails

State government will soon bring in a law against people spreading false information to provoke unrest, says CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Police officers stand guard as parents take their children home after a bomb threat at St. Germain Academy in Bengaluru on Friday. PTI

Panic gripped Bengaluru on Friday morning after at least 40 private schools across various parts of the city received bomb threats via email. Following extensive searches, the threats were declared a hoax.

Email copies reviewed by *The Hindu* revealed that the messages were sent between 7.24 a.m. and 7.35 a.m. from the email ID roadkill333@atomicmail.io.

The email read, "Hello. I am writing to let you know that I have placed several explosive devices (trinitrotoluene) within school classrooms. The explosives are skilfully hidden in black plastic bags."

Menace of bomb threats

Following the alert, police personnel, anti-sabotage teams, and canine squads were deployed. Schools promptly evacuated students, and most declared a holiday for the day. The threatening emails were sent to official school administration email IDs and, in some instances, directly to principals.

Schools that received the emails to their administration IDs contacted all the premises searched. A senior police officer told *The Hindu* that the investigation will be handled by cybercrime police stations and led by the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) overseeing the Central Cybercrime Police Station. In November 2023, around 70 schools in Bengaluru and its outskirts received bomb threats via email. While those threats were also deemed a hoax, they carried a different tone like 'terrorism'.

This time, the sender wrote: "I truly hate my life. I was never, never truly helped. Psychiatrists, psychologists, no one has ever cared, and no one will ever care. You only care about medicating the helpless and clueless humans. Psychiatrists never tell you that those meds ruin your organs or that they cause disgusting weight gain."

In previous cases involving email threats, the police have struggled to find leads. Many investigations remain unsolved, despite efforts to involve Interpol, which also yielded no results. Such emails have become frequent, with many hospitals, schools, private companies and even international airports receiving similar threats.

Commenting on the development, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said in Mysuru that the government will soon bring in a law against people spreading false information and provoking unrest in the society.

Man from Tripura arrested for abusing Kannadigas, Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bommanahalli police have arrested a 32-year-old Tripura man for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Kannadigas and Karnataka, while talking to a delivery executive under the influence of alcohol.

He has been identified as Mithun Sarkar, an employee at a massage therapy center and a resident of Bommanahalli in South Bengaluru.

According to investigators, he has been living in the city for the past ten years.

The incident occurred on Thursday morning after Sarkar ordered a T-shirt from an e-commerce platform. When the delivery executive was unable to locate his address due to confusion in the details provided, he called Sarkar multiple times for clarification.

"The delivery person called Sarkar two or three times but couldn't find the address. Sarkar became angry over the repeated calls and verbally abused the delivery person during one of the conversations," a police official told *The Hindu*.

Call recorded

The officer added that the delivery executive recorded the call when Sarkar began using offensive language.

"Sarkar allegedly said that if all non-Kannadigas left Karnataka, the locals wouldn't have enough money to even buy tomatoes," the officer said. He reportedly insulted Kannadigas for eating 'mudde' (ragi balls), a staple local dish.

The audio clip was later submitted to the Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV), which demanded Sarkar's immediate arrest.

FIR registered

The police have registered an FIR against Sarkar under sections 196 (promoting enmity between different groups based on religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc.) and 352 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) of the BNS.

Sarah Fathiema, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast Division), told *The Hindu* that Sarkar was arrested on Friday.

Goods vehicle driver from Chitradurga murdered in Peenya

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 45-year-old goods vehicle driver from Chitradurga was bludgeoned to death with a stone allegedly by his friend in the early hours of Friday near Peenya in northern Bengaluru.

The deceased has been identified as G. Ranganath, a resident of Nelagadaranahalli, The police have identified the suspect as Anand, the victim's friend, who is on the run. The incident occurred near TVS Cross in the Peenya Industrial Area on Friday around 1 a.m.

Preliminary investigations suggest that both Ranganath and Anand, who work as goods vehicle drivers, came to Bengaluru on Thursday for work

Death on the spot

They reportedly got into a quarrel over a petty issue, which escalated and ended with Anand allegedly killing Ranganath. According to the police, Anand smashed Ranganath's head with a stone, resulting in his death on the spot. Fearing the consequences, Anand fled from the scene.

Motive unknown

The police said the exact motive behind the murder will only be known after the suspect is apprehended. The Peenya police have registered a case of murder and launched a search to nab the accused.

Digital art exhibition from July 25

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

'Yours, digitally', an exhibition showcasing the creative works of Krishnan Rangaraju – a Chartered Accountant-turned-digital artist, will be held at the D. Devaraj Urs Gallery, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, on Kumarakrupa Road from July 25 to 28.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-(IREPS) Tender Notice No. 21 UBL 2025-26 Dated: 10-07-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Sl.No	Name of Work	Approx. Value
1	**Hubballi Division -** Miscellanceous annual Maintenance ativities for Residential Building, Service Buildings, Water supply Network, Road & Drainage under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Belagavi (BGM) section. (Special Work-5)	**Rs. 1,92,11,371/-**
2	**Hubballi Division-** Miscellanceous annual Maintenance ativities for Residential Building, Service Buildings, Water supply Network, Road & Drainage Brightening/Painting of Service Building and Staff Quarters under Assistant Divisional Engineer/Castlerock (CLR) section. (Special Work-6)	**Rs. 2,14,35,481/-**
3	**Hubballi Division-**Maintenance of track in Badami-Bagalkot (BDM-BGK) (UP & DN lines) Bagalkot - Wandal (BGK-WDL) (SL line) Bagalkot - Lokapur (SL line) and Wandal-Hotgi (WDL-HG) (UP & DN line) in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Vijayapura Jurisdiction for a period of one year.	**Rs. 5,42,61,868/-**
4	**Hubballi Division-** Gadag-Hotgi (GDG-HG) TBR-30.05 Km.	**Rs. 1,93,80,898/-**
5	**Hubballi Division-** Hosapete - Ballari (HPT-BAY) CTR(S) 2.61 Km. and TRR(S) 2.6 Km in yard lines.	**Rs. 1,29,65,802/-**
6	**Hubballi Division-** Hosapete - Vyasa Colony-Swamihalli (HPT_VC-SMLI) Section CTR(S) 3.832 Kms.	**Rs. 1,23,18,942/-**

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 11-08-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

PUB/303/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-Ordination, Hubballi**

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Auction catalogue No.: PRK-UBL-BGK-BJP
Dated : 11.07.2025

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites e-acution bids for the following works.

Name of the Work : SSS Hubballi: Four Wheeler Premium Parking, Bagalkot: Combined Parking, Vijayapura: Combined Parking

E-Auction schedule start: **28-07-2025 at 11:00 Hrs**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in (e-auction portal)

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, PUB/271/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Hubballi.**

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(A Government Of India Undertaking)

ARM Branch-1, No.86, Spencer Tower, M.G. Road Bengaluru PH: 080 25588642

E-AUCTION WITHDRAWN

E Auction Notice published in **The Hindu Newspaper** on **03.07.2025** pertaining to **(1) Smt. Vandana Gopal Shinde, (2) Shri. Sanjeet Vijaykumar Raut And (3) Shri Gopal P Shinde (Owners/ Mortagagers/Guarantors)** which is scheduled on **19.07.2025 from (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM) stands CANCELLED** due to administrative exigencies.

Date : 18.07.2025 **Sd/- Authorised officer**
Place: Bangalore **Canara Bank**

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client intends to purchase the Schedule property from **Dr. C. S. Vaidyanathan,** S/o. C.V. Suryanarayanan, residing at No.18, Vizcaya Driven, Monroe Township, New Jersey, U.S.A. and presently residing at **No.635, PID No.82-24-635,** 5th Main Road, Binnamangala 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038 who represents to be the absolute owner in possession of the schedule property. It is hereby notified that any person/s having any claim or interest in the property shall lodge his/their claim or objections with supporting documents with the undersigned within a period of **10 (Ten) days** from today. In case no claims or objections are received within the stipulated time, my client will be proceeding to purchase the property and any claim thereafter will not be binding on him.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of residential Site bearing **No. 635,** situated at 5th Main Road, Binnamangala II Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560038, presently within the jurisdiction of the Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike and assigned with **PID No. 82-24-635;** E-Asthi No. 1753828866 measuring East to West: 12.20 Metres; North to South: 18.50 Metres, in all measuring 225.70 Square Metres situated and bounded on the **East by:** Site No. 634 with a built house. **West by:** Site No. 636 with a built house. **North by:** Site No. 644 with a built house; and **South by:** 5th Main Road. Together with a residential house standing thereon comprising of Ground and First Floor with a total built up area of 1350 square feet along with amenities of electricity, water and sewage.

Sd/- B.N. Ananthanarayana, Advocate, No.3/8, Karnic Road, Shankarpuram, Bangalore-560004. **Mobile: 9886151710**
Place: Bangalore Date: 19.7.2025

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II AT BANGALORE

New Premises at 4th Floor, Telephone House Building, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560001

Original Application No. 1374/2021

Between:
UNION BANK OF INDIA
... Applicant
:: AND ::
M/s Danya Apparels & Anr
... Defendants

SUMMONS / NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23 (viii) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To:
1. M/s Danya Apparels
No. 11, Ward 62, Opp. Sagar Motors, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560029.
2. Mrs. S. N. Riyaz
S/o Late Syed Abdul Rahaman No. 43, Eden Crest Apartments, Flat No. 303, Viviani Road, Richards Town, Bengaluru North, Frazer Town, Bangalore - 560005.

Whereas, the applicant has instituted an application / interlocutory application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 2,47,14,581.47/-** only with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before 01/09/2025, 10.30 AM in the forenoon in person or by Pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application / interlocutory application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 17-04-2025.

Signature of the Officer
(Authorized to issue Summon)
DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II BANGALORE

THE HINDU IN SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ
A Newspaper exclusively curated for School Students

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

BGS Public School witnessed a proud moment as the Investiture Ceremony unfolded with grace and solemnity. The event was blessed by Poojya Dr Prakashnath Swamiji and graced by Mrs Jositta Francis, a noted entrepreneur and educationist. Principal Mrs Deepa Rani, along with principals of other BGS institutions, presided over the ceremony. The induction of the student council reflected the school's dedication to nurturing confident and responsible future leaders.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

RNS International School hosted their annual Investiture Ceremony, marking the induction of the new student council. The event was attended by students, teachers, and parents, and was presided over by the ceremony's dignitaries. Proceedings began with the welcome of the chief guest, followed by the presentation of badges to the elected student leaders. They took an oath to uphold the school's values and lead by example. A felicitation programme recognised the academic toppers, adding to the day's significance. The school community looks forward to the new council's initiatives and contributions.

ANNUAL PRIZE DAY

St. Joseph's School celebrated their Annual Prize Day, honouring academic excellence, values, and the Josephite spirit. The event was graced by Mr R.S. Hiremath, CEO of Flexitron, and Mr Mahesh Vaidya, Legal Advisor to the CID, along with Rector Fr. Joseph D'Souza, Principal Rev. Fr. Melwyn Anil Lobo, Vice Principal Sr. Sheena, Coordinators, and PTA Vice President Ms Joycy. Highlights included a prayer dance, lamp lighting, welcome address, and the Annual Report. The launch of the school magazine marked a decade of excellence. Students were felicitated for achievements, and speeches reinforced the values of ethics, integrity, and all-round growth.

For Subscription related queries, please contact Raghavendra Desai:
Handphone:+91 9986196254 | Email: desai.rnb@thehindu.co.in

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POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS (PGDBA)
Approved by Bengaluru City University
from July / August 2025

COURSE DETAILS

- Venue: **Centre for Business Analytics,** RV Institute of Management, Jayanagar, Bengaluru
- Eligibility: Graduates from any discipline
- Mode: Hybrid (Blend of Online & Offline)
- Duration: ONE year - 2 semesters of 5 months each & Two months Real World Capstone Project
- Tuition fees: Rs 1,60,000/-
- Timings: Mon to Fri: 6.30pm to 9.00pm Sat: 2.30pm to 9.00pm

Scan QR code for Course details, to register & pay the fee

Contact Person : Prof. Mithun D J
Mob: 9844284240 Ph: 08042540300
Website : www.rvim.edu.in

EDUCATIONAL

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ANTHRO MEANS VAID SIR
Scan to Learn More

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MARSHAL Grace Ruivah, W/o Yarngam Muivah, R/a No.504, 5th A Main, 4th C Cross, 2nd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560043 have changed my name to Marshal Grace Muivah vide affidavit dt: 18.07.2025 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar.K, B'luru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Subash Reddy Natarajan S/O, Natarajan R/o No 5, 33/2, Apr Enclave, Kodichikkanahalli Raod, Bangalore -68 have changed my name to Subash Reddy for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 18-07-25

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **D.MUTHU** aged about 42 years, and **Mrs.KARTHIKA.A,** aged about 39 years, residing at # 154, 4th Cross, 1st Main, Kammagondanahalli, Behind SDA School, Bangalore North, Jalahalli West, Bengaluru-560015. My son name is **SHAM.M** as per his Aadhar Card No. 8061 3480 1486, as per in his Birth Certificate, SI No.A 1057656. We have decided to Change our son name from **SHAM.M** to **SAM JEBARAJ.M** as per numerical as in all records. Swron vide affidavit dated: 12.07.2025 before the Advocate & notary K.Balaraju at Bangalore.

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
Notice U/O 5 Rule 20 (1-A) of C.P.C. Miscellaneous Appeal No. 588 of 2017
(Arising against order Dated 18.10.2016 passed in W.C. Case No. 04 of 2008, Labour Court Hazaribag)

Oriental Insurance Company Ltd.
Versus
Yashoda Devi & Ors.

Notice:-
To Respondent No. 4

V.K. Odugoudar father's name not known to the appellant C/o M.K. Odugoudar at M/s Rajahi Excavators, Hulkoti, Taluk Gadag, Karnatak - 582101

Whereas it has not been possible to secure service of notice upon you in the above mentioned miscellaneous Appeal by Ordinary Process / Registered Post. You are hereby noticed to appear in person or through advocate on **30.07.2025** before this Court and if no appearance is made on your behalf on or before the date fixed, the aforesaid Miscellaneous Appeal will be heard and decided Ex-parte, your absence not withstanding.

Given under my hand & Seal of this Court, this **20th day of June 2025.**

BY order of the court
Assistant Registrar

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
Notice U/O 5 Rule 20 (1-A) of C.P.C. Miscellaneous Appeal No. 589 of 2017
(Arising against order Dated 18.10.2016 passed in W.C. Case No. 04 of 2008, Labour Court Hazaribag)

Oriental Insurance Company Ltd.
Versus
Dewanti Devi & Ors.

Notice:-
To Respondent No. 6

V.K. Odugoudar father's name not known to the appellant C/o M.K. Odugoudar at M/s Rajahi Excavators, Hulkoti, Taluk Gadag, Karnatak - 582101

Whereas it has not been possible to secure service of notice upon you in the above mentioned miscellaneous Appeal by Ordinary Process / Registered Post. You are hereby noticed to appear in person or through advocate on **30.07.2025** before this Court and if no appearance is made on your behalf on or before the date fixed, the aforesaid Miscellaneous Appeal will be heard and decided Ex-parte, your absence not withstanding.

Given under my hand & Seal of this Court, this **20th day of June 2025.**

BY order of the court
Assistant Registrar

GETTY IMAGES

Will Piastri vs. Norris go the way of F1's other stormy intra-team battles?

Formula One has a fascinating history of teammates bitterly clashing over the drivers' crown. Although there hasn't been the same animosity between McLaren's two contenders this year, the rivalry could boil over when the title race enters the business end of the season

S. Dipak Ragav

There are team sports, individual sports, and then there is motorsport, where the lines between the two blend and blur.

One intriguing aspect of the top single-seater racing series, such as Formula One and MotoGP, is that they are inherently a team sport, as hundreds of people work together to create the fastest machine.

Startling metamorphosis

But once the vehicle is on track, the sport metamorphoses into something entirely different – a primal battle between individuals. For a driver or rider, the first competitor they want to beat is their teammate, sitting on the other side of the garage, driving identical machinery.

The first competitor a driver wants to beat is their teammate, sitting on the other side of the garage, driving identical machinery

Some of the most iconic duels in F1 have been between teammates for supremacy.

At the halfway stage of the 2025 season, the stage is set for another such epic clash, with McLaren's Oscar Piastri and Lando Norris separated by just eight points. Third-placed Max Verstappen, the reigning four-time champion, is 69 points behind and, barring a miraculous turnaround in Red Bull's fortune, unlikely to figure in the fight.

The dynamic in an intra-team battle is one of the most interesting aspects of the world championship. The F1 championship consists of two parts: the drivers' crown and the constructors' title. Although car performance accounts for almost 90% in determining who will win the title, the beating heart of the sport is still the individual driving the car.

It means that the drivers' title is more prestigious and enduring in memory. The 2021 and 2024 seasons, for instance, are more notable for Verstappen's laurels than for Mercedes or McLaren being the title-winning squads.

However, for the team, the constructors' standing is crucial, as it determines the prize money, which runs into hundreds of millions of dollars, and staff bonuses.

In a situation where a team and its two drivers are in the title picture, the management needs to strike a balance by keeping the larger goal in mind: winning the constructors' championship, while also ensuring the drivers are satisfied.

History has shown, however, that this is a challenging task to manage because drivers, once they realise that the big prize is up for grabs, will go to any lengths to gain a competitive advantage over their rivals, especially their teammates.

F1 is replete with tales of teammates getting along well until the moment they get a car capable of fighting for the title, and the relationship quickly goes sour. Once two drivers are fighting at the sharp end, the physical proximity in a close fight will inevitably boil over.

In recent times, Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg's rivalry at Mercedes showed how swiftly things can get out of the management's hands. The only contenders for the crown from 2014 to 2016, the two – friends during their karting days – became sworn enemies.

They had a few run-ins in 2014 and 2015 when each tried to get the upper hand. But the most significant incident occurred in 2016 when Hamilton attempted to pass Rosberg on the opening lap of the Spanish GP and took both of them out. The team bosses had to stage an intervention and get them to apologise to the factory for their petulance.

Toxic atmosphere

The two sides of the garage also became guarded about data, hoping to have an advantage over the other. So much so, the team rejigged the mechanics of both cars ahead of the 2016 season, as the team atmosphere had become toxic.

It is something Hamilton also knows from his rookie season in McLaren back in 2007, when he and Alonso were at loggerheads. Alonso's infamous move, blocking Hamilton in the pits during the Hungarian GP qualifying to deny the latter a chance to set a time, showed how serious the issue was. In the end, Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen nicked the title from the duo, who were tied on points, by just one point.

SENNA VS. PROST

Things can also get heated off the track, leading to political machinations behind the scenes. How a driver feels the management is treating them can make or break their career. The paranoia over a teammate's equipment and set-up can consume a driver.

Sebastian Vettel was convinced something was wrong with his car in 2010, after being beaten by Mark Webber in two races in Spain and Monaco. In Webber's memoir, he reveals that then team boss Christian Horner told Vettel his chassis was cracked because the German couldn't accept he was beaten fair and square.

While this is one such example, F1's greatest teammate tango had everything that could go wrong when two strong drivers go head-to-head. Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost's careers were defined by their intense rivalry, which played out over their time at McLaren in 1988 and 1989.

The ever-daring Senna wanted not just to win but to demolish his opponent, giving no inch to anyone. In contrast, Prost was the clinical 'Professor', who looked to win the race without straining the machinery. It started with Senna forcing Prost towards the pit-wall in Portugal in 1988, but came to the fore when the two collided in a title-decider the following year in Suzuka. Although Senna won, he was disqualified for cutting a chicane, which gave Prost the title.

While Senna was the upstart in McLaren, Prost, already a two-time champion with the team, believed that it was gravitating towards the Brazilian and felt engine supplier Honda also preferred his arch-rival, giving him special engines. In turn, Senna believed FISA president Jean-Marie Balestre sided with his fellow Frenchman and cost him the title in '89. The relationship deteriorated to the point that Prost eventually left to drive for Ferrari in 1990.

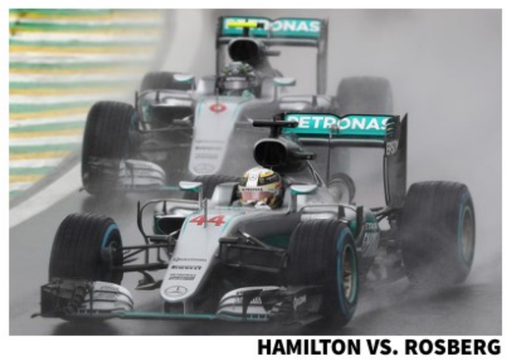
So far in 2025, there hasn't been the same animosity between the McLaren drivers, despite a few isolated incidents. More importantly, the management has adopted an approach that ensures they are fully prepared for a situation in which drivers come together and openly discuss it, having established procedures to deal with it.

The main flash point was in Canada when Norris rammed into Piastri on the final lap, but he immediately apologised. That, and the fact that Norris retired from the race without Piastri suffering any damage, meant the situation was defused easily.

Uneasy calm?

However, as we enter the second half of the championship, it remains to be seen how long the calm lasts. Last year, in Hungary, Norris had to be goaded into giving up the race lead, which he had inherited when the team's strategy mix-up cost Piastri the advantage. In what was seen as payback, Piastri pipped Norris at the start in Monza, which took everyone, including the team, by surprise, despite Norris being the only one with a realistic chance of winning the title.

Those are the small sparks that could engulf a team in flames in a tight title fight. Can Norris and Piastri keep it clean, or will the competitive jostling boil over, as it always has in this sport?

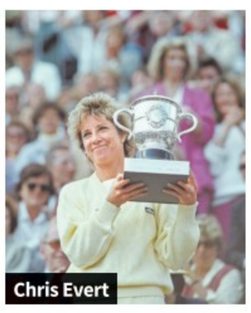


HAMILTON VS. ROSBERG

GAME THEORY

Court masters: accomplishing the 'Surface Slam'

At Wimbledon, Iga Swiatek became the eighth woman to win at least one Grand Slam title on three different surfaces — a feat that has come to be known as the 'Surface Slam'. Jannik Sinner, who added a grass Major to his hardcourt crowns, needs a triumph on Roland-Garros' clay to complete his 'Surface Slam'. This achievement has only been possible since 1978, when the US Open was first played on hardcourts. Here are the women and men to taste glory on three surfaces:



Chris Evert

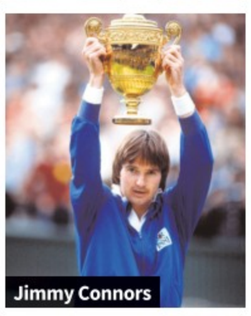
SURFACE SLAM WINNERS: WOMEN

Player	First Major title on		
	Grass	Clay	Hard
Chris Evert	1974 Wimbledon	1974 French Open	1978 US Open
Martina Navratilova	1978 Wimbledon	1982 French Open	1983 US Open
Hana Mandlikova	1980 Australian Open	1981 French Open	1985 US Open
Steffi Graf	1988 Wimbledon	1987 French Open	1988 Australian Open
Serena Williams	2002 Wimbledon	2002 French Open	1999 US Open
Maria Sharapova	2004 Wimbledon	2012 French Open	2006 US Open
Ashleigh Barty	2021 Wimbledon	2019 French Open	2022 Australian Open
Iga Swiatek	2025 Wimbledon	2020 French Open	2022 US Open

Iga Swiatek

SURFACE SLAM WINNERS: MEN

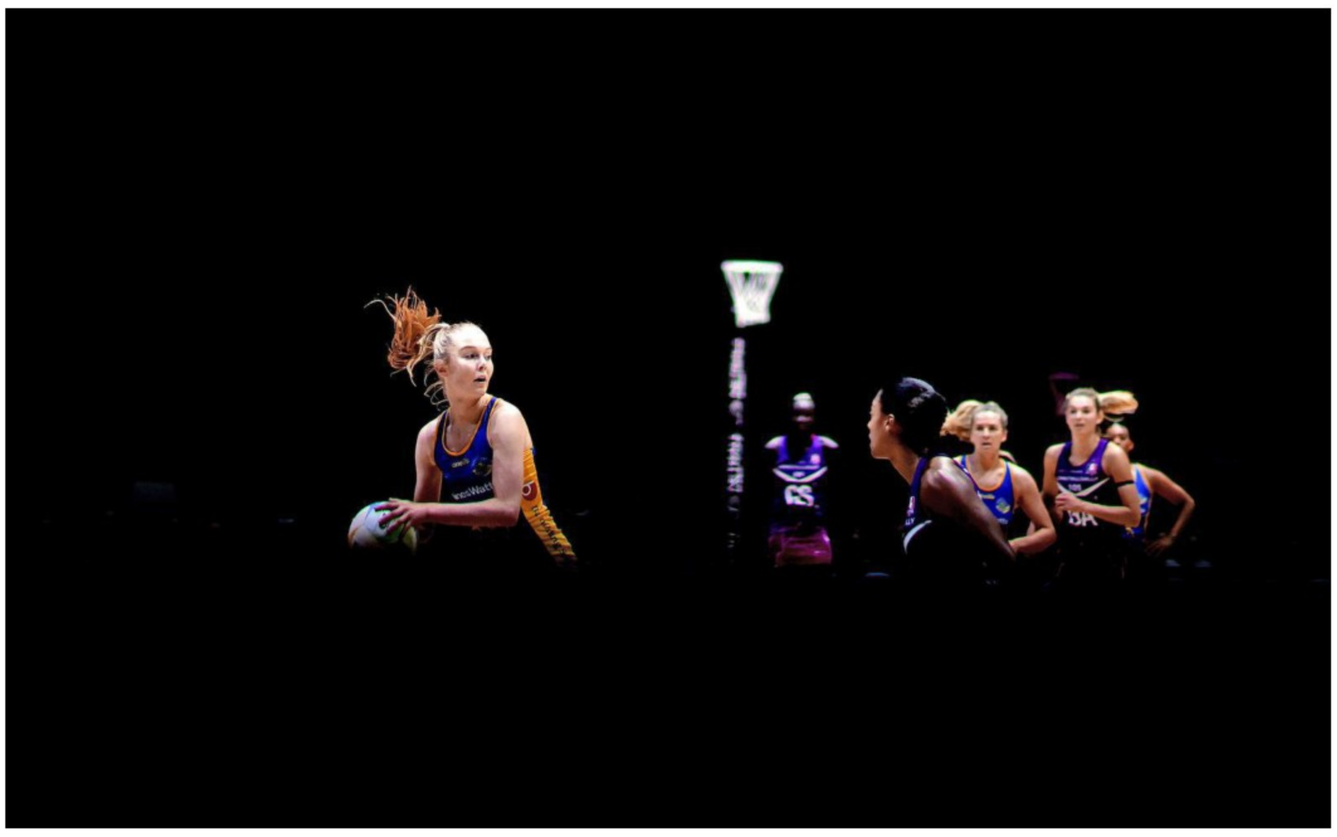
Player	First Major title on		
	Grass	Clay	Hard
Jimmy Connors	1974 Australian Open	1976 US Open	1978 US Open
Mats Wilander	1983 Australian Open	1982 French Open	1988 Australian Open
Andre Agassi	1992 Wimbledon	1999 French Open	1994 US Open
Rafael Nadal	2008 Wimbledon	2005 French Open	2009 Australian Open
Roger Federer	2003 Wimbledon	2009 French Open	2004 Australian Open
Novak Djokovic	2011 Wimbledon	2016 French Open	2008 Australian Open
Carlos Alcaraz	2023 Wimbledon	2024 French Open	2022 US Open



Jimmy Connors

Carlos Alcaraz

PICTURE THIS



Hoopin' in the dark

Netball has an origin story comic book heroes would be proud of.

Historical accounts record that Clara Gregory Baer, a pioneering sports teacher living in New Orleans, wrote to basketball's inventor James Naismith, asking for a copy of the rules for the game he had conceived while studying in Massachusetts in 1891.

When she received them, she misinterpreted a diagram of the court with dotted lines, which were meant to show areas the players could best patrol; she thought the lines defined zones of restricted movement. And thus the idea of netball was born in 1895.

Netball, played by two teams of seven, differs from basketball in the absence of a backboard for the goal ring and the prohibition of dribbling, bouncing and running with the ball. It's primarily played by female athletes, on both indoor and outdoor rectangular courts.

The objective is to score more goals than the opposition. Contact is strictly regulated and the players' positions are specifically assigned. As a result, there is a greater emphasis on passing and positioning than in basketball.

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A BG-BGE

Adhere to SC guidelines while quizzing Byrathi Basavaraj in murder case: HC to police

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the city police to strictly adhere to the guidelines issued by the apex court while questioning former Minister Byrathi Basavaraj, who is arraigned as one of the accused in the murder of a rowdy sheeter.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on a petition filed by Mr. Basavaraj, BJP MLA from K.R. Puram constituency, who has questioned the First Information Report registered against him based on the complaint filed by Vijayalakshmi, who had witnessed murder of her son Shivaprakash.

Byrathi Basavaraj
K. MURALI KUMAR

While the police had said that the complainant's mother had alleged that her son was murdered by unidentified assailants who were instigated by the MLA over a land dispute, it has been argued on behalf of Mr. Basavaraj that mother of the victim had only stated that unknown persons killed her son, but it was the police who arraigned the MLA as an accused though complainant had not taken his name. It was also claimed before the court that Vijayalakshmi, in an interview given to certain television channels, has claimed that she had not taken MLA's name in the complaint, but it was the police who added his name.

However, the State Public Prosecutor pointed out to the court that Shivaprakash in February lodged a complaint of threat from three persons, including from Mr. Basavaraj, and that 'threat has become a reality' in his death. The prosecutor also claimed that the complainant's statement to television channels is an indication of the 'winning over of the witnesses' by the accused persons.

Distribution of eggs and bananas irregular in over 560 schools: Report

'Districts with the highest number of schools where irregular distribution took place was Tumakuru, Chikkamagaluru, Bengaluru Rural, Kolar, Dakshina Kannada, Raichur, and Shivamogga'

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Eggs are being distributed as an additional nutrient, along with midday meal, to students from classes 1 to 10 on six days a week, and bananas are being distributed to students, who do not receive eggs, in all government and aided schools in Karnataka. However, a recent report has found that this distribution is not uniform in over 560 schools.

With the help of Azim Premji Foundation for Development (APF), steps were taken to provide eggs for six days a week from September 2024.

The APF inspection team inspected about 762 schools across Karnataka, out of which, the School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) in 568 schools were found to have taken improper decisions regarding the distribution of eggs and bananas. They had decided to distribute eggs to students three days a week and bananas on the remaining three days. In some other schools, it has been decided to distribute bananas instead of eggs on Mondays and Saturdays. Despite obtaining parental consent, it was found that a unilateral decision had been made to distribute bananas instead of eggs to students six days a week. According to the report, the highest number of schools where eggs and bananas were being distributed irregularly is in Tumakuru district – 132 .

A file photo of students receiving boiled eggs as part of the midday meal.

'If this continues, the officers concerned will be held responsible and disciplinary action will be taken'

This is followed by Chikkamagaluru district (74 schools), 56 in Bengaluru Rural district, 50 in Kolar district, 37 in Dakshina Kannada, 36 in Raichur, and 21 schools in Shivamogga, the native district of School Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa. The report has been submitted to the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL). "It is not right for the SDMCs to take a decision to distribute eggs in schools on two or three days instead of six days a week, even with the consent of the parents. The SDMCs are not allowed to take such decisions on their own ," said Director of PM Poshan, Shakti Nirman.

The headmaster of the school, the officials concerned are not paying attention to such cases, and such wrong practices have not been corrected so far, which leads to dereliction of duty and neglect of the interests of the programme, said the Director.

"As a result, the nutritional support programme will suffer a serious setback. If this continues, the officers concerned will be held responsible and disciplinary action will be taken," he added.

Suspended IFoS officer offers apology

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Minister Khandre says he recommended that Mr. Gokul be reinstated as CCF and his suspension be revoked

Indian Forest Service (IFoS) officer R. Gokul, who was suspended by the State government in connection with a case filed in the Supreme Court seeking permission to denotify 443 acres of HMT forest land, besides writing a letter to the CBI, has reportedly admitted to his mistake and submitted an unconditional apology.

A statement from Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre stated that, following this, a recommendation had been made to revoke his suspension and appoint him as Chief Conservator of Forests.

Currently, Mr. Gokul holds the rank of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and was serving as the Director-General (Environmental Management and Policy Research Institute) at the time of his suspension. Mr. Khandre, replying to a question on whether the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) had refused to approve the suspension of the IFoS officer and written to the Chief Secretary in this regard, said that he was unaware of it. However, it has now been learnt that the MoEFF communicated that the official suspension cannot be considered at this stage due to a "technical reason" that detailed information was not sent to the Central government within 15 days of his suspension.

According to Mr. Khandre's office, Mr. Gokul has filed an application in the Supreme Court and has admitted making "false allegations" against the government in a letter to the CBI. In this backdrop, the Chief Secretary has also recommended that Mr. Gokul's suspension be revoked. Mr. Khandre said he had recommended that Mr. Gokul be reinstated as CCF and his suspension be revoked.

It would be 'someone else', not police who have to be held accountable for stampede, HC told

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Everyone knows who went to the airport to welcome RCB cricket players, who attended the official facilitation ceremony on the steps of Vidhana Soudha and also at M. Chinnaswamy stadium, and it would be 'someone else', not the police, who have to be held accountable for the stampede occurred outside the stadium, it was argued before the High Court of Karnataka on behalf of IPS officer Vikash Kumar Vikash on Friday. These submissions were made before a Division Bench comprising Justice S.G. Pandit and Justice T.M. Nadaf during the hearing of an appeal filed by the State government, which had questioned the Central Administrative Tribunal's July 1 verdict of quashing the government's June 5 order of suspending Mr. Vikash Kumar, who was holding the post of Additional Commissioner of Police (West) on the day of stampede.

It was pointed out to the court that the government has taken a 'contradictory stand' as it has, on the one hand, justified the action of suspending senior police officers, and on the other hand, it has defended the safety and security measures taken by police authorities during June 4 victory celebration of RCB team, in the two separate proceedings before the court.

Senior advocate Dhyan Chinnappa, appearing for Mr. Vikash Kumar, pointed out that the government, in its status report submitted to the court in the *suo motu* PIL proceedings, has explained the elaborate security and traffic arrangements made by the city police, but it is arguing contrary when it comes to the issue of suspension of the police officers. Every police officer and personnel were on the streets on June 3 and June 4 in connection with the RCB's victory celebrations, and it was none other than the then city Police Commissioner who was handling the security along with other police officers, he said. As the government had told the court in its status report that it took action of suspension against senior police officers 'recognising the need for accountability within the law enforcement hierarchy', he said an IPS officer cannot be suspended holding accountable for incident such as stampede sans any enquiry or material.

Compensation increased

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has announced an enhancement in financial assistance under the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board.

The revised benefits, notified on July 16, aim at bolstering the social security net for registered beneficiaries. According to the notification, the funeral expenses and ex-gratia amount provided to the families of deceased workers has been doubled from ₹75,000 to ₹1.5 lakh. In addition, the compensation for deaths caused by workplace accidents has been raised from ₹5 lakh to ₹8 lakh.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum-1 to E-Tender Notice No. EI_Work Dated : 26-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Replacement of panel interlocking with Electronic interlocking System with outdoor Signalling and Telecom arrangements at Dodbelle, Herehalli and Golehalli stations between Yasvantpur - Tumakuru Section of Bengaluru Division.	Rs. 22,29,13,773.49

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 25-07-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer Construction / Bengaluru Contonment
PUB/314/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. SWR/W/TS/USFD/2025/04/E Dated: 11-07-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Ultrasonic Testing of AT Welds in Hubballi Division for a period of 24 Months. (E-Tender No. SWR-UBL-USFD-ATW-202501)	Rs. 42,63,705/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 11-08-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Track Procurement HQ / Hubballi
PUB/306/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26
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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. ECN-TRD-07-2025-RT Dated : 11-07-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES for 1) Design, Supply, Erection, Testing, Commissioning of 2x25 Kv OHE & PSI System (TSS, SP & SSPS) Including Engineering & Telecommunication Works Between Vyasa Colony (Excl.) (Ch:0019) and Amaravathi Colony (Excl.) (Ch:0135) of Vyasa Colony-Amaravathi Colony Section (116 RKM/131.30 TKM) 2) Design, Supply, Erection, Testing, Commissioning of 2x25 Kv OHE & PSI System (TSS, SP & SSPS) Including Electrical general services, Engineering & Telecommunication works between Rayadurga (Excl.) (Ch:205/463) to Pavagada (Incl.) (Ch:106/000) of Tumakuru - Rayadurga section (99.463 RKM/114.145 TKM) through Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) mode basis.	Rs. 6,55,30,571.44

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 11-08-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution (Construction) Bengaluru
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बिहार सरकार
श्रम संसाधन विभाग
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन, नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार।
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के अंतर्गत Skill Competition Expert (SCE) की सेवा लिये जाने हेतु अभ्यर्थियों के चयन सम्बन्धी विज्ञापन
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन, श्रम संसाधन विभाग नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड पटना बिहार के अंतर्गत **Skill Competition Expert (SCE)** की सेवा जो राष्ट्रीय स्किल प्रतियोगिता में विजेता रहे हों एवं **Worldskills** प्रतियोगिता 2022 या 2024 में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व किया हो **(Worldskill** द्वारा परिभाशित किसी भी कौशल प्रारूप में) ऐसे अभ्यर्थियों की सेवा मिशन में लिये जाने हेतु सचिव, श्रम संसाधन विभाग, नियोजन भवन, पंचम तल, ए ब्लॉक, आयकर गोलंबर के नजदीक, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार–800001 के पते पर आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किया जाता है। सेवा हेतु अभ्यर्थियों के चयन की विस्तृत विवरणी बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के वेबसाईट–**www.skillmissionbihar.org** से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। आवेदन दिनांक–28.07.2025 को अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के कार्यालय में रजिस्टर्ड डाक या स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से प्राप्त किया जायेगा। विलंब अथवा त्रुटिपूर्ण आवेदन के लिए बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा, साथ ही इसपर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।
उक्त सूचना **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर भी देखी जा सकती है।
मिशन निदेशक
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन
श्रम संसाधन विभाग
नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार।
PR- 008941 (L R D) 2025-26
नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank (A Government of India Undertaking)
Fifthgear Syndicate
Canara Bank ARM Branch– II,
2nd Floor, Circle Office, Spencer Towers, No.86,
M G Road, Bengaluru - 560001. Telephone numbers :
080-25310099, 080-25310181. Email: cb6298@canarabank.com
DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR
Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.
To,
Borrower : 1) M/s Balaji Marketing Mineral Water
No 243/A, Mathurayanagar, Forest Layout, Opp Govt Press RV College Post , Mysore Road ,Bangalore-560059
2) Sathisha Gowda S/o Nagaraje Gowda
No 22 Bairava Nagar , Rv College Post Mysore Road, Bangalore-560059
3) Satisha Gowda
S/o Sri M Nagaraj Gowda
No 9,3rd Cross, Subramanyapura Post Arehalli , Uttarahalli Hobli Bangalore -560061
4) Mr K Shashikanth S/o Sri Shivaram (Guarantor)
No 9/10, Om Shakthi Nagar, Vasanthpura Main Road, Konanakuntte Bangalore-560068
5) Mr K Shashikanth S/o Sri Shivaram (Guarantor)
No 02, RR building , 10th Main Opp BRV School , Vasanthapura Main Road Bengaluru 560078
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank ARM II branch (hereinafter referred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred as the "Act") do hereby issue this notice to you as under:
That **M/s Balaji Marketing Mineral Water (Borrower) Sri Sathisha Gowda (proprietor)** , (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower") has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and have entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance, you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount/s in accordance with the terms and conditions of the above mentioned agreements.
That Sri K Shashikanth S/o Sri Shivaram (hereinafter referred to as "the Guarantor"), has guaranteed the payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabilities owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities(Fund based / Non Fund Based) up to the limit of **Rs. 2,45,29,332.63 (Rupees Two Crores Forty Five Lakhs Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred And Thirty Two And Paise Sixty Three Only/-)** as on **18.07.2025** with interest thereon.
You **Mr. Sathisha Gowda S/o of Sri M Nagaraj Gowda** has also entered in to agreements against the secured assets which are detailed in Schedule B hereunder.
You have committed default in repayment of loans as mentioned below and the loans were classified as Non Performing Assets on **31.03.2016** The Bank through this notice brings to your attention that you have failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in hereunder to the Bank **within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice.**
Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rate together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the bank in recovering its dues.
SCHEDULE –A
Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower

SL NO	Loan No	Nature of Loan / Limit	Date of sanction	Sanctioned Amount (Rs.)	Disbursed Amount (Rs.)
1.	8411261000004	MSME OD/OCC	13.06.2014	30,00,000.00	
2.	8411773000003	TERM LOANS	13.06.2014	20,00,000.00	20,00,000.00

SCHEDULE –B
[Details of security assets]
Details of Movable Assets

SL N	Nature	Nature of charge
1.	Hypothecation of Raw materials Stock & finished and unfinished Stock	Exclusive
2.	Hypothecation of Machineries Purchased valued at 32.28 lakhs as on 13.06.2014	

Details of Immovable Assets

SL N	Nature	Name of the title holder
1.	**Details of Security Assets** : All that part and parcel of residential property bearing no 14, old khatha No 88/2, present Municipal No 88/2/1A, situated at Valagerahalli Village, within the limits of Kengeri Municipality Kengeri Hobli Bangalore South taluk, Bangalore, now within the limits and jurisdiction of BBMP measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 30 ft , in all 1200Sqft consisting of two Square Ac Sheet Roofed building and bounded on the **East by:** Property No 1, **West by:** Road, **North by** :Drainage and **South by :** Property No 13.	Sathisha Gowda

SCHEDULE – C
[Details of liability as on date 18.07.2025

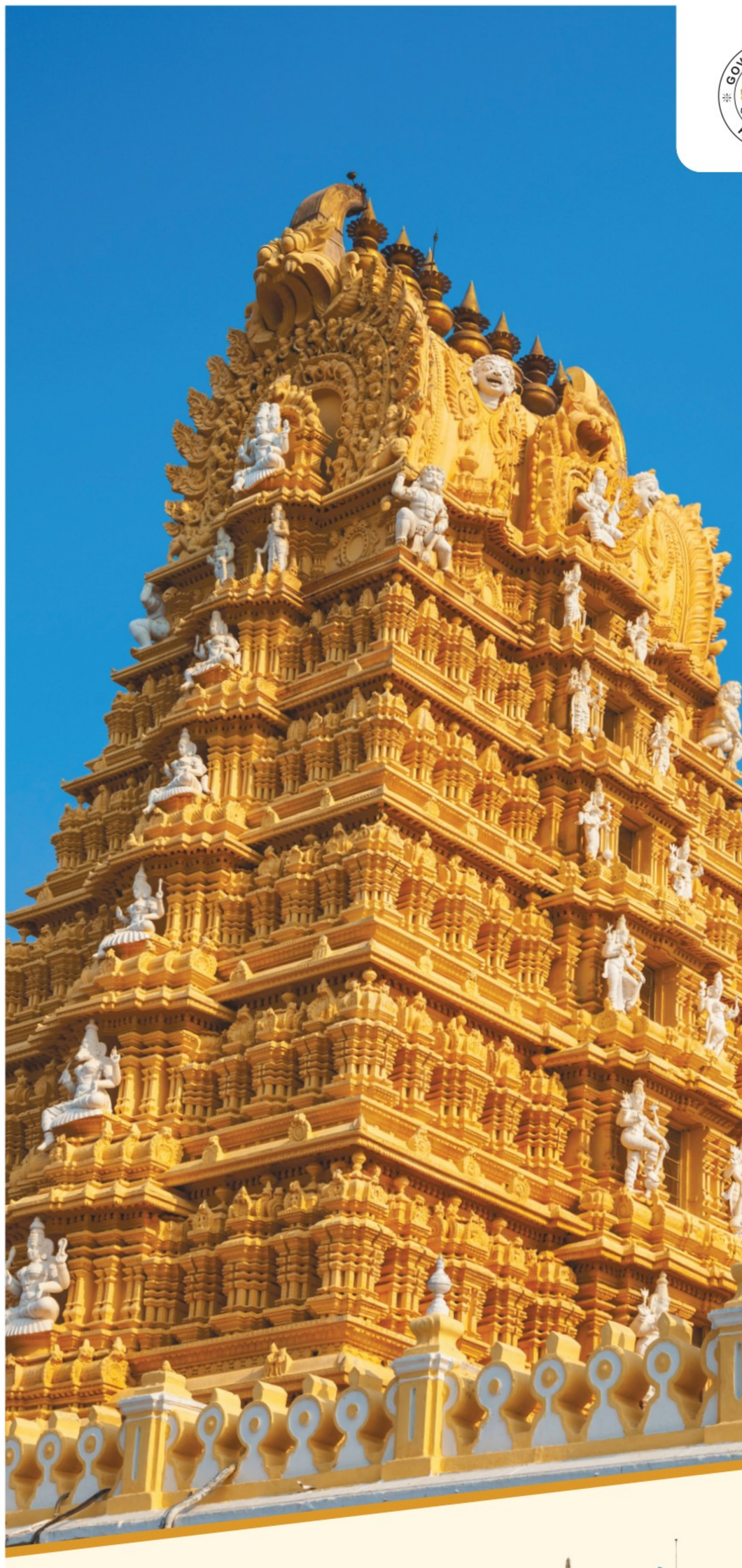
SL NO	Loan No	Nature of Loan / Limit	Principal as on date 18.07.2025	Interest and other charges as on date 18.07.2025	Liability with interest as on 18.07.2025
1.	8411261000004	MSME OD/OCC	Rs. 31,08,199.00	Rs. 1,45,12,241.82	Rs. 1,76,20,440.82
2.	8411773000003	TERM LOANS	Rs. 15,83,378.00.	Rs. 53,25,513.81	Rs. 69,08,891.81

Place : Bangalore
Date : 18.07.2025
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda India's International Bank
ROSARB, REGIONAL OFFICE, BANGALORE (SOUTH), 4th Floor, Vijaya Towers, 41/2, M.G.Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-560001. Phone No.080-25584066, Extn: 441, 080-25011710, E-Mail Id: SARBES@bankofbaroda.com
ANNEXURE - I - REDEMPTION NOTICE
Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
Ref No.BARBSARBES/25-26 **Date: 10-07-2025**
To, 1. M/s Sai Krupa Nutrients, Shed No.2, Khata No.178/224, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159. **2. Mrs. Radhika H.J, Prop.: M/s Sai Krupa Nutrients, W/o Sri. Pradeepa M,** Hulibele Village, Kasaba Hobli, Horalagallu Post, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara-562159. **3. Sri. Pradeepa M, S/o Manchegowda, (GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR),** Khata No.193/224/2B, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159. **4. Sri. Padmarajegowda G URF Ramesh (GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR), S/o Late Giriyappa,** Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159. **5. Sri. Kunnegowda URF Kunnappa (GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR),** Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159.
Re: Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002).
Ref:- 1. Demand Notice dated 15.05.2024 u/s 13 (2) of SARFAESI Act 2002.
2. Possession Notice dated 21.09.2024 issued u/s 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act 2002.
Dear Sir/Madam,
Whereas the Authorised Officer of the **Bank of Baroda, Branch ROSARB, BENGALURU SOUTH REGION, 4th Floor, Vijaya Towers, 41/2, M.G.Road, Near Trinity Circle, Bangalore** being Secured Creditor Bank in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 (hereinafter refereed as "Act") read with Rules 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 (hereinafter refereed as "Rules") issued demand notice dated 15.05.2024 calling upon you being Borrowers (s)/ Mortgagor(s)/Guarantor (s) to repay the amount stated in the said demand notice within 60 days from receipt of said notice.
And whereas you have failed to repay the amount, the undersigned in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 4 and/or Rule 8 of the Rules have taken over the Possession of Secured Assets (hereinafter referred as the said properties) more particularly described herein below Schedule. [Copy of **Possession Notice dated 21.09.2024** is attached herewith for ready reference]
Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to Bank as mentioned in above Possession Notice. Your attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Therefore, you all are requested to pay the dues as mentioned in the possession notice along with applicable interest, cost, charges & expenses within 30 days from receipt of this notice and redeem the secured asset as mentioned below. In case you fail to pay the above-mentioned dues & redeem the secured asset within 30 days from receipt of this notice, Bank will be constrained to sell the secured asset through public e-Auction by publication of e-Auction Sale notice. The date, time of e-auction and Reserve Price of the property shall be informed to you separately.
Schedule of Secured Assets/Properties

Sr. No.	Description of the Movable/ Immovable Properties	Date of Possession	Type of Possession (Symbolic/ Physical)	Date of Publication of Possession Notice (For Immovable property only)
1	As mentioned below	21-09-2024	Symbolic	24-09-2024

Description of the Movable/Immovable Properties:
1. All that piece and parcel of property with katha No.190/224/1A (allotted property No.159000401801000858 as per katha extract) having East to west 34.00 meters and 10 meters and North to South 10 meters and 22.80 meters totally measuring 568 square meters or 6113.96 Sq. Ft. situated at kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Their own property and private property, **North:** Remaining portion of Radhika H.J and Road, **South:** Road. **Property standing in the name of Radhika H.J.**
2. All that piece and parcel of property with katha No.74/3 (allotted property No. 152900401801020077 as per katha extract) having East to west 12.192 meters and North to South 15.24 meters totally measuring 185.775 square meters or 1999.62 Sq. Ft. situated at kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Site No.6, **West:** Road, **North:** Road, **South:** Site No.2. **Property standing in the name of Radhika H J.**
3. All that piece and parcel of property with katha No.192/224/6 (allotted property No. 152900004018010000890 as per katha extract) having East to west (22.60+22.80)/2 meters and North to South 24 meters totally measuring 544.80 Sq.Meters or 5864.173 Sq.Ft. situated at kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road and Radhika H.J. Property, **West:** Private Property, **North:** Property of Pradeep M, **South:** Own Property. **Property standing in the name of Radhika H.J.**
4. All that piece and parcel of property with katha V.P. No.193/224/2B (allotted property No.152900401801020293 as per katha extract) having East to west 11.28 meters and North to South 11.19 meters totally measuring 126.223 Sq. mt. or 1358.63 Sq. ft. situated at Hosur Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Private Property, **North:** Property of Pradeep M, **South:** Property of H J Radhika. **Property standing in the name of Pradeepa M.**
5. All that piece and parcel of property with kaneshumari No.242 property No.152900401801020074 having East to west 81 meters and North to South 25 meters totally measuring 2025 Sq.meters or 21797.10 Sq. ft. situated at Kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Land with Sy.No.92, **West:** Road, **North:** Private Property, **South:** Land in Sy No.92. **Property standing in the name of Kunnegowda urf Kunnappa.**
6. All that piece and parcel of property with kaneshumari No.221/7 property No.152900401801020140 having East to west 72.33 meters and North to South 21.34 meters totally measuring 1543.52 Sq. meters or 16615.74 Sq. ft. situated at Kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Private Property, **North:** Private Property, **South:** Other property of Padmarajegowda. **Property standing in the name of Padmarajegowda @ Ramesh.**
7. All that piece and parcel of property with Kaneshumari No.221/5 property No.152900401801020080 having East to west 46.48 meters and North to South 45.73 meters totally measuring 2125.53 Sq. meters. or 22879.20 Sq. ft. situated at Kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road, **West:** Private Property, **North:** Other property of Padmarajegowda, **South:** Property of Puttaswamaiah. **Property standing in the name of Padmarajegowda Uruf Ramesh.**
8. All that piece and parcel of property with kaneshumari No.34/4 property No.152900401801020071 having East to west 32.31 meters and North to South 25 meters totally measuring 807.75 Sq. meter or 8694.62 Sq. ft. situated at Kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Road and Property of Puttaswamaiah., **West:** Property of Gowramma, **North:** Property of Thimmegowda, **South:** Private Property. **Property standing in the name of Padmarajegowda Urf Ramesh.**
9. All that piece and parcel of property with Kaneshumari No.268/7 property No.152900401801020160 having East to west 51.08 meters and North to South 31.70 meters totally measuring 1619.23 Sq.Mt. or 17429.39 Sq.ft. situated at Kootagal Village, Kootagal Gram Panchayath, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Property of Puttaswamaiah., **West:** Land in Sy No.92 **North:** Road, **South:** Land in Sy.No.92. **Property standing in the name of Padmarajegowda Urf Ramesh.**
10. All that piece and parcel of property with khatha No.224/5/A having East to west 48.30 meters and North to South 32.61 meters totally measuring 1575.06 Sq. mt. or 16953.987 Sq. ft. situated at Kutagal Village, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159 with **boundaries: East:** Property of Pradeepa M., **West:** Property of Pradeepa, **North:** SyNo.93, **South:** Road. **Property standing in the name of Pradeepa M.**
Date: 10-07-2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer,**
Place: Bangalore **Bank of Baroda, Branch ROSARB, Bengaluru South Region**



GUARANTEE SARKARA
REBUILDING A NEW KARNATAKA

Abhivruddhi Parva in the Cultural Capital

24 Departments. 74 Works.
Total value:
₹2,578.03 Crores

July 19 2025 | **11 AM** | **Maharaja College Ground Mysuru**

Foundation Stone Laying and Inauguration of Key Projects

- CHESCOM Projects – **₹408.95 Cr**
- Road Development Works – **₹393.85 Cr**
- Unity Mall – **₹192.99 Cr**
- Peripheral Cancer Centre, Endocrinology Centre, and Urology & Nephrology Building – **₹175.50 Cr**
- Banni Mantapa Bus Terminal – **₹120 Cr**
- Student Hostels – **₹108.56 Cr**
- Foundation Stone for Various KPTCL Projects – **₹38.73 Cr**
- Karnataka Exhibition Authority Projects – **₹23.59 Cr**
- Karmika Bhavan – **₹19.76 Cr**
- Sports Science Centre – **₹3.50 Cr**

And other projects across various departments...

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Mysuru District In-charge, briefing on key developmental works.

In the assembly constituencies of Mysuru district, **18 development works** worth **₹280.15 Crores** will be inaugurated, and foundation stones will be laid for **56 projects** valued at **₹2,297.88 Crores**

Inauguration by
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Ceremonial opening of stage programmes by
Shri Mallikarjuna Kharge
Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition
Rajya Sabha

In the Presence of
Shri D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Ministers, MLAs, MPs, and other public representatives, along with officials from various departments, will participate in the programme

Be part of Mysuru's historic moment of progress and transformation

A cordial welcome to all

CMofKarnataka https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in/

"To protect and respect our vibrant culture and tradition," is a Fundamental Duty of every citizen. This is affirmed by our Constitution.

karnataka information

A BG-BGE

Central Bank meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Bank of India organised a customer town hall Meeting here recently, bringing together senior officials and customers for an interactive session focused on the bank's latest offerings and digital transformation.

Zonal head K. Dharasing Naik and regional head K. Partha Sarathi Naidu led the discussions.

Ravishankar is BMRCL Managing Director

He succeeds Maheshwar Rao who was relieved of the responsibility

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ravishankar J.

Ahead of the opening of the long-awaited Yellow Line of Namma Metro, the Karnataka government on Friday has appointed Ravishankar J., a 2001-batch IAS officer, as the new Managing Director of the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL).

He succeeded M. Maheshwar Rao, IAS, who was relieved from the additional responsibility. Mr. Ravishankar was serving as the Secretary in the Agriculture Department.

A graduate of dental surgery, Mr. Ravishankar has held various positions across the State, including Secretary of the Housing Department and Special Commissioner at the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

His past roles include stints at the Urban Development Department, Municipal Administration, Kannada and Culture, and Urban Housing departments. He has previously served as Deputy Commissioner in multiple districts.

Yellow line

Mr. Ravishankar faces the challenge of opening the long-awaited Yellow Line at the earliest, as public patience continues to wear out.

Although the line is physically complete, the BMRCL has missed multiple deadlines to make it operational. The corporation is now planning to open it in August.

Mr. Ravishankar will have to tackle the task of ensuring timely completion of the under-construction Pink and Blue Lines of the Bengaluru Metro.

BMRCL employees' union opposes plan to outsource train operators

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BMRCL Employees' Union has raised objections to a recent move by the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to outsource key operational roles, including train operators, train operation supervisors, and train operation managers, for the upcoming Reach-5 and Reach-6 lines of Phase II.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Suryanarayan Murthy, vice-president of the union, said that the BMRCL has floated a tender to contract private firms for the operation of metro train services on these stretches, as well as at the depots. "This is a government-owned company, and such critical posts should not be handed over to private players. We will oppose this move," he said.

Mr. Murthy warned that outsourcing such essential roles would directly impact BMRCL employees, particularly when it comes to career progression and job security.

However, a senior BMRCL official clarified that the outsourcing decision has been taken primarily to address the current shortage of trained staff. "Chennai and Hyderabad metros have adopted similar outsourcing models, which help bring down operational costs while maintaining efficiency," the official said.

The official added that the move is a temporary measure.

Survey flags ineffective implementation of the Kere Mitra programme; talks about lack of support from authorities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A survey by the Bengaluru chapter of ActionAid Association has shed light on major gaps in the implementation of the Kere Mitra programme.

The report points to several inefficiencies such as lack of support and coordination from the authorities, delayed responses, and minimal improvement of several lakes.

'Delayed response'

The survey, conducted among 52 Kere Mitras across 35 lakes in south and east zones of Bengaluru to assess the effectiveness of the programme and understand the experiences and challenges of kere mitras, found majority of the respondents (57%) feeling that the programme was not effectively implemented.

Most of the respondents flagged delayed or zero response from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on alerting them about issues. While around 44% of respondents said no response was received, 28% said there was a delayed response after about seven days.

The volunteers pointed to negligence on the part of the authorities in attending to the issues raised by them. Around 29% stated that none of the issues flagged by them were attended to. Another 29% responded saying about 25% of the issues flagged by them were taken care of.

No improvement

On asked about the improvement in the overall condition of the lakes since the programme was introduced in October 2023, majority responded in the negative.

Noting that there was barely any updates or transparency on progress, timelines, or budgets, the respondents suggested that the BBMP expects passive agreement instead of active citizen engagement.

Many also reported receiving no proper training or clarity on roles, responsibilities, or escalation mechanisms and felt they were not actively engaged in decision-making.

Lack of funds

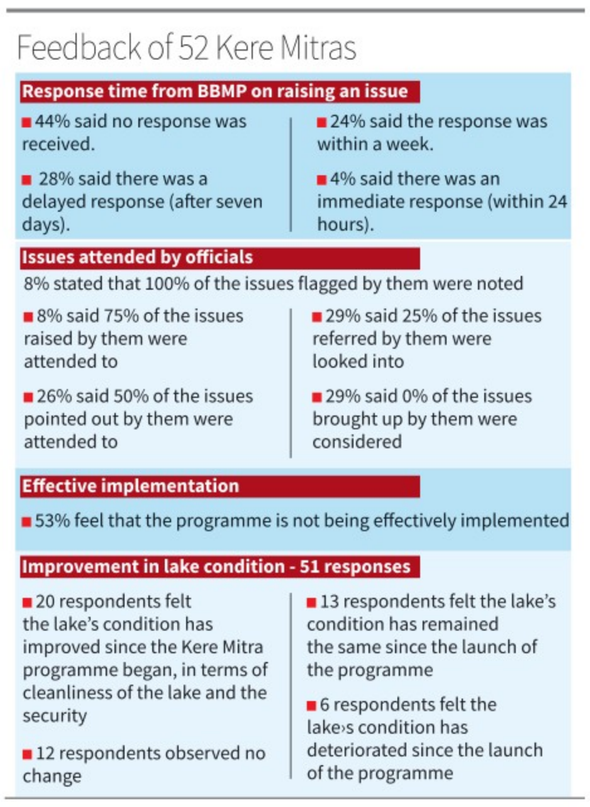
The report also flagged lack of funds and slow execution due to budget constraints. Many reported inadequate security, poor lighting, and insufficient on-ground staff near the lakes. "Encroachment issues and illegal activities go unaddressed. No monitoring or reporting structure to track outcomes," the report read.

Respondents say

Despite the challenges, 96% of the respondents expressed in continuing as Kere Mitra in the coming years.

Some of the suggestions from the respondents included regular meetings between Kere Mitras, BBMP officials, and contractors at lake sites, timely action, and accountability from the authorities, monthly reviews by the Chief Engineer, a dedicated officer as a single point of contact for each lake, and a central dashboard or app to log complaints, follow-up status, and updates, among others.

According to the BBMP, the initiative is aimed at allowing participation of citizens in the daily maintenance of the lakes in its jurisdiction.


Feedback of 52 Kere Mitras
Response time from BBMP on raising an issue
44% said no response was received.
24% said the response was within a week.
28% said there was a delayed response (after seven days).
4% said there was an immediate response (within 24 hours).
Issues attended by officials
8% stated that 100% of the issues flagged by them were noted
8% said 75% of the issues raised by them were attended to
29% said 25% of the issues referred by them were looked into
26% said 50% of the issues pointed out by them were attended to
29% said 0% of the issues brought up by them were considered
Effective implementation
53% feel that the programme is not being effectively implemented
Improvement in lake condition - 51 responses
20 respondents felt the lake's condition has improved since the Kere Mitra programme began, in terms of cleanliness of the lake and the security
13 respondents felt the lake's condition has remained the same since the launch of the programme
12 respondents observed no change
6 respondents felt the lake›s condition has deteriorated since the launch of the programme

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, JUL. 19	
RISE	06:02 SET 18:50
RISE	00:28 SET 13:31
SUNDAY, JUL. 20	
RISE	06:02 SET 18:49
RISE	01:17 SET 14:33
MONDAY, JUL. 21	
RISE	06:03 SET 18:49
RISE	02:12 SET 15:38

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	29	20
Bengaluru	29	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
26°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ DISTRICT HOSPITAL, BALLARI.
ಎಸ್‌ಟಿಡಿ–08392, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಶಸ್ತಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಕರು–274255 ಸ.ಆ.ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ–274254
bellaryds@gmail.com

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. DHB/EQUIP-DMF/TEND/01/2024-25/Call-2, DATED: 17.07.2025

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tenders are re invited from eligible Bidders for supply of ENDOSCOPIC 4K IMAGING SYSTEM FOR ENT-01 No & MICRO LARYNGOSCOPY (MLS) INSTRUMENTS-01 SET to ENT Dept. for total amount of Rs.79.74 Lakhs under DMF Fund through KPPP portal http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. The other details may obtain at the Office and above said website.

Sd/- District Surgeon,
District Hospital, Ballari
DIPR/Ballari/278/KSMCA/2025-26

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458 E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com
F.No: LDCL/Stevedoring-5 Dt : 11.07.2025

RE-TENDER

E-tender is invited for engagement of Stevedoring agency for Stevedoring Agency Service for UTLA owned Cargo Barges for Kochi Port through e- tender No: LDCL/Stevedoring/Kochi-5. For details and E-tendering please visit website **https://www.tenderwizard.com/UTL** and **https://tendersutl.gov.in** Tender due on 01.08.2025 at 11.00 AM. For any help in e-tendering, please contact Help Desk No. 080-40482000 / 9605557738/9686115318 **(https://tenderwizard.com/UTL)** and 0120-4001002, 4001005, 6277787 **(https://tendersutl.gov.in).**

Sd/- MD (LDCL)

MINORITY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
District Officer, Ramanagara,
Bangalore South District, Phone : 080-2727 1104.
No. : DOM/Staff-02/Outsource.Tender/CR-07/2025-26
Date : 18-07-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender Notification for supply of **Manpower Service through Outsource Agency.** Interested Bidders can participate in E-procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Approximate Amount put to Tender : Rs. 255.13 Lakh, 2) EMD Amount : Rs. 3,82,698/-, 3) Start Date for Submission of Tender Application : 19-07-2025, 4) Last Date to Submit : 02-08-2025 at 5.00 p.m.

Sd/- District Officer,
Minority Welfare Department,
Bangalore South District.
DIPR/Ramanagar/242/Manipal/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(www.kpwd.gov.in)
Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division,
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
Telephone No. 080-22133370, Email ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

Tender Notification No. 11/2025-26 DATED: 17.07.2025

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD No.2 South Sub Divisions under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published for 01 work **(Rs. 498.00 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

1.Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM** on Dated: **01.08.20**25

2.The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **02.08.2025 at 4.30 PM** or further date and time will be Intimate.

For more details contact this office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.
DIPR/CP/1914/Zen/2025-26

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
DHARAMSHALA
(NAAC Accredited 'A+' Grade with CGPA of 3.42)

Admission Notice: 2025-26

Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala invites online applications from CUET (UG)- 2025 appeared candidates for admission to the following UG Programmes:

UG Courses:	Certificate Programmes:
B.A Sanskrit (Honour's), Shastri (BA), B.Sc. Physics (Honour's), BFA (Sculpture), BFA (Painting), B.Com (Honours/ Research)	Gujjar History and Culture, Kashmiri Language (Sharda Script), Punjabi Bhasha, Vedic Mathematics, Emerging Areas of Social Work, Apiculture and Sericulture, Aquaculture, Indian Culture and Heritage, Tribal Literature of America, Yoga Studies, Mushroom Cultivation, Indian Foreign Policy, Personality Development and Communication Skills, Biomaterial Chemistry, Physics of Electrical Circuits and Electronic Devices, Utility Design, Pahari Miniature Art

Admission is also available in the following programmes for Non-CUET appeared candidates:

Non-CUET Programmes	PG Admission (Left out Seats)
1. B.Tech. (Computer Science & Engineering) 2. M.Tech. (Science & Technology of Nanomaterials) 3. M.Sc. (Geology) 4. M.Sc. (Remote sensing & GIS)	Left out seats are also available in PG/ PG Diploma/ PG Certificate Courses in some departments for the candidates who could not appear in CUET examination.

Last date for admission/ registration is **27.07.2025** for the UG Programmes and is **23.07.2025** for Non-CUET Programmes.
For further information kindly visit University's website i.e. **www.cuhimachal.ac.in.**
Registrar

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಶೇಷ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 05/2025–26
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.07.2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಶೇಷ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇವರಿಂದ "ಮೈಸೂರು ನಗರದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಮಹಾರಾಜ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಮಧ್ಯಮಾಂಗಣ ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ದುರಸ್ತಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ". (ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.22463) ಗೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ 8443 ಠೇವಣಿವಂತಿಕೆ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ KW-3ರ ನಿಬಂಧನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ವಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು (http://KPPP.karnataka.gov.in) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕ್ಲೋರಿಸ್ ಗೆ ದಿ: 21.07.2025 ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದಿ: 24.07.2025 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.51.97 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ.ಯ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.1.04 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ವಿಶೇಷ ವಿಭಾಗ, ನಜರ್‌ಬಾದ್, ಮೈಸೂರು.
DIPR/DDMYS/650/KSMCA/372/2025-26

MANDYA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES MANDYA
(Autonomous Medical Institution, Government of Karnataka
Ph: 08232-231003, 222086, 231197, 224040,
Fax: 08232-231001
E-Mail Address mimsmandyaoffice@gmail.com, mimsmandya@gmail.com
Ref No: MIMS/Sup-D/Patho/E-tender/14/2024-25
Dt: 11.07.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS), Mandya, invites E-tender for Supply of Chemicals, Reagents, Kits, Consumables & etc items to the Pathology Department (approximate amount Rs.158.00 Lakhs) of MIMS Mandya from the Manufacture's or Authorized Dealers in two cover bid system as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-1999 and Rules thereunder. Submission of e-tender and other details can be obtained in e-procurement portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Director, Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences Mandya
DIPR/MDY/300/KSMCA/MDY/318/2025-26

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(A Rajasthan Government Undertaking)
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur- 302005, Phone- 0141-2227751, 4593201
E-mail: riico@riico.co.in Website-riico.rajasthan.gov.in

TENDER NOTICE

RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for the following works/ services/supply etc.

Sr. No.	Office & Type of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.in Lacs)
1.	**Unit Head, Udaipur**	
1.1	Construction of Roads and RCC Box Culvert for Residential Zone and Strengthening and Recarpeting of Roads at Industrial area Kaladwas Extn Udaipur. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00536**	332.97
1.2	Operation and Maintenance of Mewar Ind area, Mewar (Extn), IT Park, IID Center Kaladwas Bhamashah Kaladwas and Kaladwas Extn. of Unit Udaipur.**UBN-RDC2526WSOB00603**	432.73
2.	**Unit Head, Bhiwadi-I**	
2.1	Upgradation of street light at I/A Bhiwadi Ph-I,II, III & IV **UBN-RDC2526WLOB00572**	814.43
2.2	Construction of 1 SR and 1 CWR with allied works at Industrial Area Kaharani. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00594**	261.70
2.3	Operation and Maintenance works i.e. cleaning of ROW, Drains, Door to Door Collections, Plantations, Street Lights and Water Supply Scheme of Industrial Area under Unit Office Bhiwadi-I. **UBN-RDC2526WLOB00605**	1027.78
3.	**Unit Head, Neemrana**	
3.1	Routine works related to operation and maintenance of Industrial area EPIP, Neemrana-I,II, NIC (M), Kolila Joga Neemrana **UBN-RDC2526WLOB00575**	554.68
4.	**Unit Head, Jodhpur**	
4.1	Construction of Box Culvert Drain from ITI Circle to New Power House at Transferred Industrial Area Light Industrial Area, Jodhpur. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00577**	266.91
4.2	Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Areas Basni Ph-I & Ph-II, Sangariya Ph-I & Ph-II and all Transferred Ind. Areas, Jodhpur. **UBN-RDC2526WLOB00600**	519.02
5.	**Unit Head, Ghiloth**	
5.1	Routine works related to operation and maintenance of Industrial area Ghiloth. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00581**	310.24
6.	**Unit Head, Bhiwadi-II**	
6.1	Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Area Chopanki, Pathredi and Bandapur. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00593**	513.45
6.2	Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Area Khushkhera, IID Centre Khushkhera, Tapukara and Karoli. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00595**	836.09
7.	**Unit Head, Bhilwara**	
7.1	Survey Demarcation Construction of road and CD works and Construction of Boundary wall at Industrial Area Dhunwala District Bhilwara. **UBN-RDC2526WLOB00596**	988.13
8.	**Unit Head, Boranada**	
8.1	Operation and Maintenance of Industrial Areas at Boranada (Ph-I to Ph-IV), Housing Colony Boranada, Agro Food Park, EPIP, Boranada Industrial Park and Shilpgram Pal under Unit Office Boranada. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00582**	485.00
9.	**Unit Head, Aburoad**	
9.1	Regular Upkeepment and Operation & Maintenance of Industrial Area and Housing Colony of Ambaji, Arbuda, Growth Centre Phase-I and Phase-II, Abu Road. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00599**	424.51
10.	**Unit Head, Balotra**	
10.1	Construction of Shed for Plug & Play Facility at Industrial Area Borawas-Kalawa Phase-I. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00598**	800.93
11.	**Unit Head, Kota**	
11.1	Regular up-keeping and O & M of Industrial Area Indraprastha and Electronic Complex, Kota. **UBN-RDC2526WSOB00601**	400.31
12.	**Unit Head, Alwar**	
12.1	Routine works related to operation & Maintenance of Industrial area MIA, MIA (Extn), South East Zone & Extn., Agro Food Park Alwar **UBN-RDC2526SLOB00604**	577.33

Bidders/contractors may download and submit tender online. Detailed information of tenders and any kind of corrigendum/ date extension, if any in future, may be seen by bidders on websites riico.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
For queries please contact: GM (Civil) Ph. 0141-4593243
Raj.Samwad/C/25/6480

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru - 560 001 Phone No. 080-22265383 Website : www.kiadb.in
No: IADB/ENGG/ETND-DPR-02/585/2025-26 Date: 18.07.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK KPP Portal Only)

KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work for project mentioned below:-

Name of the work: Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) Economic Analysis, Survey, Plan Design, Preparation of Estimates, etc., for Providing Basic Infrastructures at Peenya Existing Industrial Area, Bengaluru Urban District.

Applicants May download bidding documents from the e-Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

The Last Date and Time for Submission of Bids: **20.08.2025** upto **4:00** pm.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/1922/CCL/2025-26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road,
Bengaluru – 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-08/378/2025-26 Date:17.07.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tender is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Class-I (Electrical) Contractors registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work : Providing Additional 250KVA Transformers & Connected work at Mulawada 1st Phase Industrial Area, Vijayapura District ***(2nd Call)*** *(Reserved for CAT-II(A)).*

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **30.07.2025 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2
DIPR/CP/JA/1903/2025-26

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Ad hoardings all set to make a comeback in city

BBMP (Advertisement) Bylaws – 2024 notified by govt.; civic body expects to earn nearly ₹500 cr. additional revenue this year through ad fee that ranges between ₹50 and ₹90 a sq. ft

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Advertisement hoardings are all set to make a comeback in the city after they were banned in 2018. The civic body hopes to rake in an additional revenue of nearly ₹500 crore through advertisement fee that ranges between ₹50 and ₹90 a sq. ft of the hoarding, depending on the guidance value of land in the area. Hoardings will not be allowed around Vidhana Soudha.

The State government on Thursday issued the final notification of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (Advertisement) Bylaws - 2024, a new ad policy pending for years. The draft of the bylaws was issued in July 2024, and a final notification has been issued with a few changes, incorporating objections that came for the draft.

For instance, the draft bylaws listed road widths in feet, while the final notification lists it in metres. The draft said no advertisement, apart from self-advertisement, will be allowed on a road less than 60 ft wide. The advertisement fee was in the range of ₹40 and ₹110 a sq. ft, which has now been revised to in the range of ₹50 and ₹90 a sq. ft. The total horizontal length of hoardings at a circle has been revised from 60 ft to 120 ft, and the maximum height of a hoarding from the ground has been raised from 75 ft to 30 metres (over 98 ft).

Policy in place: An advertisement hoarding near Hebbal flyover in Bengaluru on Friday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Restrictions on hoardings

- No advertisement, other than self-advertisement, shall be permitted on any road less than 18 metres, outside industrial and commercial areas
- No hoardings or advertisements on footpaths, and no hoarding shall be projected on a public road
- No advertising of any manner on trees, traffic lights, high-mast lights, or street lights, or on electricity poles on roads or at circles
- No use of any psychedelic, laser or moving displays, no video or moving digital advertisements shall be allowed
- LED displays etc. shall be still and only changing of images after minimum 10 seconds shall be permissible
- The level of luminance of a hoarding shall not exceed a source limit of 1rd/cm square and illumination shall not be continued after 11 p.m.
- Neon signs on residential premises shall not be flickering, and they shall be turned off by 10 p.m.
- No ads can use any colour, words, and signs that may be confused with any authorised traffic sign or signal. Use of words such as stop, look, detour, danger, caution, and warning is banned
- No ads are allowed around Vidhana Soudha: Ambedkar Veedhi, K.R. Circle, Chalukya Circle, Post Office Road, Kumara Krupa Road, Raj Bhavan Road, Seshadri Road, environs of Cubbon Park and Lalbagh, Nrupatunga Road, Palace Road, and SBI Circle to Chalukya Circle

Tender for rights
With the new ad policy coming into force, the stage is now set for the civic body to give out rights to put up advertisements in the city through an open auction/tender. Before that, the BBMP should divide the whole city into suitable stretches of roads, circles, and areas, where paid advertisements shall be permissible through a notification.

Chief Civic Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao said the civic body estimates to mop up additional revenue of about ₹400 to ₹500 crore through outdoor advertisement. The civic budget for 2025-26 estimates ₹750 crore revenue from the advertisement fee (as per new policy).

However, the notification of road stretches, circles where advertisements will be allowed, and auction for advertising rights of the same will take time and this year, the revenue from this source will likely be lesser than what was estimated in the budget, sources said.

The new advertisement bylaws for the first time allow advertising on private lands, lands owned by other agencies like Indian Railways, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) or bus stands of the KSRTC, and the BMTC, and public sector units. The revenue will be shared with the BBMP, the sources said. While the BBMP will auction advertising rights on road stretches, advertisers need to broker deals with individual property owners, including government agencies, to put up hoardings on them, and these property owners will have to pay additional property tax over the same.

Restrictions
The bylaws impose several restrictions on outdoor advertising. For instance, it bans video advertising, imposes restrictions on neon lights, bans any advertising on trees, streetlights, electricity poles, on footpaths, abutting public roads, 50 ft from a traffic signal on all arms of the signal, 50 metres from any place of worship, etc.

The bylaws also constitute an Advertisement Regulatory Committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department. The bylaws brings in several reforms, including making the entire process online. Each outdoor advertisement will have to carry a QR code which when scanned should provide all details of the advertisement and any violation will make it liable to be removed.

Ejipura flyover deadline extended till March 2026

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After a prolonged delay of eight years, the deadline to complete the Ejipura flyover project has been pushed again to March 2026, but this time, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao has directed officials to take all measures to ensure completion of the work.

Work on the 2.38-km-long flyover, currently under construction, was retaken in November 2023 for the second time, with an initial deadline set for December 2025, as stated in the Extension of Time clause in the contract.

As of June 17, three major components of the project, segment casting, segment erection, and span installation, are under way and expected to be completed by December.

Chandrashekar, the project's executive engineer, told *The Hindu* that the additional three months beyond the December deadline are allotted for minor works, including the asphalting of the flyover.

Progress report
According to the BBMP's progress report accessed by *The Hindu*, out of the 762 required segments, 325 are yet to be cast, with completion expected by November. Of the 762 segments to be erected, 414 remain. Out of 66 spans, 31 have been installed and 35 are yet to be added.

The report notes that both the segment erection and span installation are scheduled for completion by December. Mr. Rao has instructed project officials to cast 45 segments a month to maintain momentum.

Mr. Chandrashekar added that the casting work is being carried out at the segment yard in Sakalavara village on Bannerghatta Road. "After each batch of segment casting is completed, we transport them to the site for erection," he told *The Hindu*.

Two ramps
Technical design documents of the flyover show that the 2.38-km flyover will feature entry and exit points at Ejipura and Madiwala. Additionally, it will include an entry up-ramp near the St. John's hospital, and a down-ramp loop toward Sarjapur Road. This exit ramp will be approximately 110 metres away from the main exit point of the flyover.

Land acquisition
According to Mr. Chandrashekar, the only remaining obstacle is the acquisition of private land near St. John's. He said several meetings have been held to finalise the process, which is now in its final stages.

The BBMP has felled 79 trees to make way for the flyover, and seven have been translocated, said a BBMP official. If all progresses as planned, the flyover is expected to be open to the public by April 2026.

The initial tender for the project was awarded in 2017, but the contractor failed to make progress. The government terminated the contract and floated a fresh tender. After multiple failed attempts, the project was eventually awarded to BSCPL Infrastructure Limited.

Progress report

Works	Total scope	Balance
Segment casting	762	325
Segment erection	762	414
Span	66	35

Content	Details
Contractor	BSCPL Infrastructure ltd
Start date	November 15, 2023
Deadline after extension of time	December 31, 2025
New deadline	March, 2026
Total cost of the project	Rs 207.81 crore

Work on the Ejipura flyover under way. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The additional three months beyond the Dec. deadline have been allotted for minor works, including asphalting, says the project's executive engineer

Garment workers' convention tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Garment and Textile Workers' Union will hold a convention of garment workers on Sunday at 11 a.m. to bring workers together to address systemic wage discrimination, to push for transparent and timely wage revisions, and to demand a working environment free of harassment and coercion.

The decision to hold the convention has come in the wake of several concerns the workers of the garment sector were facing.

According to sources, around four lakh women in the State are employed in the garment industry, a sector that supplies products to major corporate brands across Europe and North America. Despite their role in a global supply chain, these workers are paid only the government-mandated minimum wages, the sources said.

Over the past 45 years, revisions to minimum wages in the sector have been marked by repeated delays and decisions.

Many women employed in this industry are main breadwinners of their households, yet the wage structure remains stagnant and insufficient to meet the rising cost of living, the sources said.

The event will be held at White Palace, opposite R.V. College on Mysuru Road, Bengaluru. During the convention, a booklet titled *Suji Daradondigina Baduku* will be released.

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Special train

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In an effort to accommodate the surge in passenger traffic, South Western Railway (SWR) has announced the operation of a special train between Yeshwantpur and Talaguppa in Shivamogga district.

Train no. 06587 will depart from Yeshwantpur at 10.30 p.m. on July 25 and reach Talaguppa at 4.15 a.m. on July 26, a release said.

In the return direction, train no. 06588 will leave Talaguppa at 8.15 a.m. on July 26 and reach Yeshwantpur by 4.50 p.m. the same day, according to the release.

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THE HINDU

COVER

Fulfilment centres go green

Warehouses evolve into climate-smart ecosystems powering the next phase of sustainable logistics

GETTY IMAGES

Anshul Singhal

Over the past decade, sustainability has moved from the periphery to the core of business strategy. As the world confronts a mounting climate crisis, the demand for environmentally responsible infrastructure has become critical, therefore pushing logistics, warehousing, and supply chain to the frontlines of change. Fulfilment centres, once optimised primarily for scarcity, are now reimagined as critical enablers of environmental stewardship. From energy-efficient designs and waste reduction initiatives to smarter resource management, these spaces are evolving to support a more conscious and climate-resilient future.

This shift is not merely aspirational; it is driven by harsh realities like heightened investor scrutiny and consumer awareness, and stricter ESG mandates. As businesses face growing pressure, the urgency of sustainable fulfilment is palpable toward reducing their carbon footprints while maintaining speed, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness.

Green partnerships

One of the most significant shifts is the emergence of green partnerships between retailers and third-party logistics (3PL) providers. Sustainability is no longer a differentiator; it's becoming a baseline expectation. Retailers are increasingly opting to work with third-party logistics (3PL) partners that invest in renewable energy, deploy EV fleets, and leverage AI to optimise delivery routes. According to Grand View Research, the global green logistics market was valued at $1,507 billion last year, with the Asia Pacific region leading the way accounting for 36.2% of global revenue.

This shift is not purely altruistic. Green logistics partners help reduce Scope 3 emissions. Moreover, with the introduction of mandatory ESG disclosures for large companies in India and increasing interest from global investors, having a sustainable supply chain is becoming essential for brand credibility and compliance.

Future ecosystems

Fulfilment centres are redefining the very fabric of logistics infrastructure, transforming warehouses into intelligent, self-sustaining ecosystems. Designed with sustainability at their core, these hubs use daylight-optimised skylights and smart HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems that dynamically adapt to reduce energy footprints. Rooftops are evolving into clean energy farms, harnessing solar power at scale, while integrated rainwater harvesting systems promise to make groundwater dependency a thing of the past.

Inside the warehouses, cutting-edge technology is promoting a radical shift in operational efficiency. Advanced robotics and autonomous systems are eliminating redundant movements, driving both productivity and energy savings. Real-time IoT (Internet of Things) sensors and AI-powered analytics enable warehouses to anticipate maintenance needs and continuously optimise resource usage. Even packaging is getting a futuristic upgrade, with smart systems tailoring box sizes to reduce material waste and AI-driven segregation units that sort recyclable from non-recyclable packaging with precision.

Reimagining last-mile delivery

While warehouses are becoming greener, the real challenge lies in last-mile delivery, often the most polluting segment of the supply chain. To address this, fulfilment centres are rethinking their geographical positioning. Instead of being located on city outskirts, many Q-commerce players are investing in hyperlocal micro-fulfilment centres within urban clusters. This significantly reduces travel distances and fuel consumption.

The adoption of EVs for last-mile delivery is also gaining momentum. Some logistics companies have set targets to convert their entire delivery fleet to electric vehicles over the next few years. Coupled with AI-based route optimisation tools, these initiatives are not only helping reduce carbon emissions but are also improving delivery speed and cost efficiency.

Next frontier

As India emerges as the fourth largest economy and sets its sights on becoming the third largest by 2028, fulfilment centres play an even pivotal role in shaping a greener, smarter, and more resilient supply chain. The warehouses of the future won't just process orders, they will operate as living, breathing ecosystems. Imagine facilities lit entirely by natural daylight during the day and seamlessly powered by solar-charged energy at night. Floors cleaned with recycled greywater. AI algorithms will regulate the entire operation, from inventory flow to predictive maintenance, with minimal human intervention and near-zero waste.

These self-sustaining hubs will integrate circular practices by default: packaging will be biodegradable or reusable, every drop of water will be accounted for, and energy usage will be constantly optimised by intelligent systems. In essence, fulfilment centres will transcend their logistical role while becoming green powerhouses that deliver products and progress at an unprecedented pace.

The writer is co-founder and managing director of Welspun One.

THE HINDU
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BG-BGE

CM releases development grant of ₹50 cr. to each MLA

Siddaramaiah to hold meeting with legislators on July 30, 31; release of the grant expected to ease discontent within Congress, where some MLAs had publicly criticised the govt. over the delay

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After a series of one-on-one meetings with Congress MLAs and Ministers by AICC general secretary in-charge of State Randeep Singh Surjewala, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has approved the release of ₹50 crore as development grants for each MLA.

In a bid to gain the confidence of the legislators, particularly those of the Congress, the Chief Minister has decided to hold meetings with MLAs district-wise on July 30 and 31 at the State Secretariat.

Siddaramaiah

Taking up development works at the local level is expected to benefit Congress in the civic and local body polls

Utilisation plan

As per the note signed by Mr. Siddaramaiah, out of the ₹50 crore, the MLAs have been instructed to utilise ₹37.5 crore for road and bridge works under the Public Works Department, both in rural areas, and other works in urban areas. The rest of the amount (₹12.5 crore) will have to be utilised for other works that come under other departments identified by the MLAs in their respective constituencies.

The funds would be released from the Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Programme, and ₹8,000 crore has been allocated in the State Budget for 2025-26.

The release of the grants is expected to ease discontent within the Congress, where some MLAs had publicly criticised the delay. The taking up development works at the local level is also expected to benefit the party in the civic and local body elections.

The decision to release funds came after weeks of internal discussions and mounting pressure from party MLAs who had complained of a fund shortage for taking up development works in their constituencies. During the meeting with Mr. Surjewala, party MLAs also expressed disappointment over the lack of financial support. Later, Mr. Surjewala held a meeting with Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and reportedly took up the issue of release of funds for legislators.

Congress MLA for Kagwad Bharamgouda (Raju) Kage had threatened to resign over the delay in implementing development works in his constituency and blamed the government for denying funds for the past two years.

BJP objects

Meanwhile, the BJP has criticised the government for what it called "discriminatory funding". Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok said that allocating ₹50 crore to Congress MLAs' constituencies and ₹25 crore to BJP and JD(S) MLAs' constituencies, while accusing the Central government of "bias", was hypocrisy. He called for equal funding for all MLAs to ensure balanced development.

Nine-day Monsoon Session of legislature from August 11

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Monsoon Session of the Karnataka legislature will be held for nine days between August 11 and 22. Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot has summoned the Karnataka Legislative Assembly and the Council to meet in Bengaluru at 11 a.m. on August 11, an official notification stated.

Dharmasthala burials case: Govt. will act on police probe report as per law, says Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU/BENGALURU

Ruling out the possibility of the State government succumbing to pressure from any quarter over the Dharmasthala burials case, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday said the State government would act based on the report to be submitted by the police in the ongoing investigation as per law.

Fielding queries from reporters on the demand for the constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe into the complaints of rape, murder, and burials in Dharmasthala, Mr. Siddaramaiah made it clear that the government was neither in favour of nor was against the demand. The government would act as per law.

"If an SIT has to be constituted, it will be constituted," he said before adding that the government's course of action in the matter will be dependent on the report of the police investigation, which, he said, was expected in a day or two.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the complainant, a former sanitation worker who had claimed to have buried "hundreds of bodies", was absconding for about 10 years before surfacing and making a statement before the police. He has informed the police that he has buried the corpses and has offered to show the spots of the burials. "Let us see what the police investigation report says," the Chief Minister said.

In focus: A file photo of the police station at Dharmasthala. The Chief Minister has ruled out the possibility of the government succumbing to pressure from any quarter over the case.

Siddaramaiah says the govt. is neither in favour of nor is against the demand for constituting a Special Investigation Team

Mr. Siddaramaiah also made it clear that there was no pressure on the government over the probe. "The government will act as per law," he said.

On Thursday, retired Supreme Court judge V. Gopala Gowda, addressing media persons, demanded an SIT probe, monitored by either a incumbent or retired judge of the High Court or Supreme Court, into the Dharmasthala case.

Mr. Gowda said the complainant, who had recorded his statement before the magistrate, was already under pressure from the police. "The police are allegedly coercing him to mark the places where he had buried the bodies on a white paper. Also, the statement of the whistle-blower is being leaked to private individuals," he said.

'Police in no hurry'

He further said that even days after the whistle-blower lodged a complaint and recorded his statement before a magistrate, the police seem to be in no hurry to organise the exhumation of these remains. The police have not even visited the spot. This raises serious questions about the intentions of the current investigation," he said, demanding the constitution of an SIT led by an Additional Director-General of Police (ADGP) rank officer, monitored by an incumbent/retired judge of the Supreme Court or High Court.

Will Mallikarjun Kharge make a comeback to State politics?

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Amid Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala's series of meetings with MLAs and Ministers in the recent past, there is speculation in the Congress circles that All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge might be making his way into State politics. Mr. Kharge turns 83 on July 21.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has explicitly said that he will be in the chair for the full five-year term, but has acknowledged that the party high command will decide on the matter.

Mallikarjun Kharge

Mr. Kharge, too, has said that any decision is up to the party high command.

'Power-sharing pact'

A couple of months ago, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar reportedly told the party high command that he should be given the Chief Minister's post after Mr. Siddaramaiah completes two-and-a-half years in office as per the "power-sharing agreement" between the two during the formation of the government in May 2023.

In this ongoing "power struggle" between the Chief Minister and his deputy, some leaders in the party believe there are possibilities of Mr. Kharge returning to State politics and becoming the Chief Minister.

In recent days, Mr. Kharge has vetoed some of the decisions taken by Mr. Siddaramaiah. Mr. Kharge had written to the Chief Minister over reported lapses in the implementation of the roster point system for promotions of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees in government departments and had also rejected the decade-old Socio-Economic and Educational Survey (caste census), which was the pet project of Mr. Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Kharge also reportedly withheld the names of candidates suggested by the Chief Minister to fill the four vacancies in the Legislative Council.

Gauging the mood

Mr. Surjewala's one-to-one meetings with the party MLAs and Ministers have also been seen as a move to gauge the mood of the legislators and the meetings were held reportedly at the behest of Mr. Kharge and Mr. Shivakumar.

Mr. Kharge, who is the second leader from Karnataka to become the AICC chief after S. Nijalingappa, is a staunch loyalist of the Sonia Gandhi family. He has missed the Chief Minister's post on a couple of occasions in the past. The veteran leader has served in various capacities, including as Union Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

Notify Krishna tribunal's earlier order, Siddaramaiah tells Centre

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Fielding queries by reporters on the Centre's decision to extend the term of the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal by another year, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday said Karnataka had no objection to the extension of the tribunal's tenure, but urged the Centre to notify the tribunal's earlier orders passed more than 10 years ago.

'No hurdle'

Pointing out that the dispute was between Andhra Pradesh and the newly carved out State of Telangana over sharing of waters, Mr. Siddaramaiah said there was no hurdle before the government to issue a gazette notification on the earlier orders.

To a question, Mr. Siddaramaiah ruled out the possibility of Karnataka losing its share of waters.

ESIC's initiative for unregistered employers, employees to enrol

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has rolled out a special initiative offering a one-time opportunity for unregistered employers and employees, including contractual and temporary workers, to enrol in the ESI scheme without facing inspections or demands for past dues.

The initiative called SPREE (Scheme for Promotion of Registration of Employers and Employees), which has been active since July 1, 2025, will be on till December 31, 2025. In Karnataka, the ESI scheme is providing social security cover to 35 lakh insured persons and their family members, totalling 1.4 crore beneficiaries registered through 1.87 lakh employers.

Addressing pressperson here on Friday, Manoj Kumar, Regional Director, ESI Corporation, Bengaluru, said employers could digitally register their units and employees via the ESIC, Shram Suvidha, and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs portal under SPREE.

"The registration will be considered valid from the date declared by the employer. No inspection or demand will be made for the pre-registration period," he said.

No legal action

Mr. Kumar said the scheme would eliminate the fear of retrospective penalties, legal action due to non-registration and backdated dues and simplifies the registration process.

Pointing out that the ESI Corporation has also launched/approved a one-time 'Amnesty Scheme 2025', Mr. Kumar said the scheme would help resolve disputes and encourage compliance. "It offers a window for dispute resolution from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, with an aim to reduce litigation by providing a mechanism for mutual settlements, promoting ease of doing business, and fostering goodwill among the employers, " he said.

Besides, the Employment Linked Incentive scheme was recently approved by the Centre.

TUNGABHADRABOARD: TB DAM
e-Procurement Long Term Tender Notice
IFBNo.32/2025-26Dt.18.07.2025

Tender for **"Collection of Entrance fee from the Tourist visiting TB Dam & Gardens for One year"** in respect of HW & HLC Division, TB Dam is invited through `e-Procurement'.

Bid Document downloading Start Date & Time:	**19.07.2025 at 11:00 AM**
Bid Document downloading End Date & Time:	**02.08.2025 at 3:00 PM**
Bid Submission End Date & Time	**02.08.2025 at 5:30 PM**
Technical Bid Opening Date & Time:	**02.08.2025 at 6:00 PM**
Date of opening of Commercial Stage:	**05.08.2025 at 11:00 AM**

Further details can be seen
@ **https://tender. apeprocurement.gov.in**
PH: 08394 - 259114
Email: seibtbb@yahoo.com
Sd/- Superintending Engineer
I.B, TB Board, TB Dam

By E_Mail/e-Despatch: E_Mail ID: serw_balasore@yahoo.in; Ph-No-06782/260318, Balia,Balasore
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE
"e" - Procurement Notice for Road Work
Identification No.- Online Tender- Road N.C.B. No.18 for 2025-26
Letter No: - 2445 / Date. 14/07/2025

1. Name of the Work : (MMSY -TRIP)
2. Total No. of Work : 1 No. of Work
3. Estimated Cost : Rs.832.82 Lakh (Approximately)
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per Annexure
5. Period of Completion : As per annexure
6. Other Details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O S.E., R.W.Circle, Balasore Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.	NCB No.18 of 2025-26	21.07.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	06.08.2025 Up to 5.00 P.M.	05.08.2025 Up to 5.00 P.M.	07.08.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

● Further details can be seen from the website : www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Balasore.
O-436: OIPR-25105/11/0064/2526

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda India's International Bank
ROSARB, REGIONAL OFFICE, BANGALORE (SOUTH), 4th Floor, Vijaya Towers, 41/2, M.G.Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-560001. Phone No.080-25584066, Extn: 441, 080-25011710, E-Mail Id: SARBES@bankofbaroda.com

ANNEXURE - I - REDEMPTION NOTICE
Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Ref No. BARBSARBES/25-26 Date: 11.07.2025

To, 1. M/s Sri Sai Stones, Mr. Pradeepa, S/o Late Sri Manchegowda (Partner), Mrs. Bharathi, W/o Mr. Jayanna (Partner), Business @ Sy.No.269/2, Kootagal Village, Ramanagara Taluk and District-562159. **2. M/s Sri Sai Stones, Mr. Pradeepa, S/o Late Sri Manchegowda (Partner), Mrs. Bharathi, W/o Mr. Jayanna, (Partner),** Registered Office, Khata No.193/224/2B, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, Ramanagar Taluk and District-562159. **3. Sri. Pradeepa M, S/o Manhegowda, (Partner/Guarantor),** Khata No.193/224/2B, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159. **4. Mrs. Bharathi, W/o Mr. Jayanna, (Partner/Guarantor),** #22/1, Thum benahalli Village, K.P.Doddi Post, Kailancha Hobli, Ramnagar Taluk and District-562159. **5. Sri. Devaraju, S/o Late Giriyappa, (Guarantor),** No.51, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159. **6. Sri. Puttaswamaiah, S/o Late Giriyappa (Guarantor),** No.51, Hosur Village, Kootagal Hobli and Post, RAMANAGARA-562159.

Ref: Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002).
Ref:- 1. Demand Notice dated 14.08.2024 issued u/s 13 (2) of SARFAESI Act 2002.
2. Possession Notice dated 08.11.2024 issued u/s 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act 2002.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Whereas the Authorized Officer of the **Bank of Baroda, Branch ROSARB, BENGALURU SOUTH REGION, 4th Floor, Vijaya Towers, Near Trinity Circle, 41/2, M.G.Road, Bangalore** being Secured Creditor Bank in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 (hereinafter refereed as "Act") read with Rules 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 (hereinafter refereed as "Rules") issued demand notice dated 14.08.2024 calling upon you being Borrowers (s)/ Mortgagor (s) / Guarantor (s) to repay the amount stated in the said demand notice within 60 days from receipt of said notice.

And whereas you have failed to repay the amount, the undersigned in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 4 and/or Rule 8 of the Rules have taken over the Possession of Secured Assets (hereinafter referred as the said properties) more particularly described herein below Schedule. [Copy of Possession Notice dated 08.11.24 is attached herewith for ready reference]

Even after taking possession of the secured asset, you have not paid the amount due to Bank as mentioned in above Possession Notice. Your attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Therefore, you all are requested to pay the dues as mentioned in possession notice along with applicable interest, cost, charges & expenses within 30 days from receipt of this notice and redeem the secured asset as mentioned below. In case you fail to pay the above-mentioned dues & redeem the secured asset within 30 days from receipt of this notice, Bank will be constrained to sell the secured asset through public e-Auction by publication of e-Auction Sale notice. The date, time of e-auction and Reserve Price of the property shall be informed to you separately.

Schedule of Secured Assets/Properties

Sr. No.	Description of the Movable/ Immovable Properties	Date of Possession	Type of Possession (Symbolic/ Physical)	Date of Publication of Possession Notice (For Immovable property only)
1	As mentioned below	08-11-2024	SYMBOLIC	12-11-2024

Description of the Movable/Immovable Properties:

1) 1 Equitable mortgage of all the piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy. NO. 269/2, Old No.269 measuring 4 acres 7 guntas, converted from Agricultural to Non Agricultural vide DC conversion order No. ALNCR36/2016-17, dated 18.03.2019 and online NO. LNDC 10002110 as per amended order No. Rajika/ALN (R)/CR36/2016/17 dated 04.12.2019 of DC Ramanagar, Kootagal Village Hobli, Ramanagar District, and **bounded by: East by:** Land in Sy.No.94, **West by:** Land in Sy.No.94, **North by:** Land in Sy.No.94, **South by:** Remaining land of Sy.No.269. **Property standing in the name of M Pradeep.**

2) Equitable mortgage of all the piece and parcel of free hold vacant site of Commercial/ Residential in nature property No.152900401801020153 vide Khata No.268/c at Kootagal Village, Ramnagar Taluk site measuring East to West 96.03 meters and north to South 16.76 meters totally measuring 1609.46 Square Meters or 17324.23 Sq.Ft. **East by:** Devaraju Property, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Property of Devaraj. **Property standing in the name of Puttaswamaiah**

3) Equitable mortgage of All the piece and parcel of free hold vacant site of Commercial/ Residential in nature, Property No.152900401801020147, vide Khata No. 268/A at Kootagal Village, Ramnagar Taluk measuring East to West 176.82 meters and North to South 9.14 meters in all measuring 1616.13 Square meters or 17396.00 Sq.Ft. **East by:** Sy.No.92, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Other property of Devaraj, **South by:** Road. **Property standing in the name of Mr. Devaraj.**

4) Equitable mortgage of All the piece and parcel of free hold Vacant Site of Commercial/ Residential in nature Property No. 152900401801020148 vide Khata No. 268/B at Kootagal Village, Ramnagar Taluk. East to West 176.82 meters and North to South 9.14 meters in all measuring 1616.13 Sq Meters or 17396.02 Sq.Ft. **East by:** Survey No.92, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Putta Swamaiah Property, **South by:** Remaining property of Devaraj. **Property standing in the name of Mr. Devaraj.**

Date: 11-07-2025 **Sd/- Authorized Officer,**
Place: Bangalore **Bank of Baroda, Branch ROSARB, Bengaluru South Region**

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

R. ARULPRAKASH (74), Retired Senior Technical Assistant (Composing), The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 18-July-2025. Address: No: 4/59-A, Pillaiyar Kovil Back Street, Karthikeyapuram, Gudiyattam-635806. Contact: 9884111054

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

22nd ANNIVERSARY

K.P.SUBRAMANIAM
02-02-1915 - 19-07-2003
FOUNDER
Automotive Ancillary Services Pvt. Ltd.
Fondly Remembered by
K.S.MOHAN, UMA MURALI, SHWETHA, SHRADHA & APSARA

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Heartfelt Tribute on 2nd Death Anniversary

Prof. J. GOPALAKRISHNAN
Retired Professor IISc, SSCU Dept. Bangalore
18.3.1944 ■ 19.7.2023

Your presence we miss,
Your Memory we Treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never...

Deeply loved & missed by
Wife: G. Prema
Daughter : G. Shanmugapriya
Son in law : P. Vinoth Kumar
Grandson: Krishna Navaneeth .V

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients **Mr. RAJITH GIREESAPRASAD WARRIER** S/o. Mr. P. Gireesa Prasad and **Mr. GIREESA PRASAD.P**, S/o. Mr. M.C. P.Warrier are the absolute owners of the Schedule property and they have lost General Power of Attorney dated 18/08/2018 executed by Mr. Rajith Gireesaprasad in favour of Mr. P. Gireesa Prasad S/o. Mr. M.C. P. Warrier to Purchase the Schedule Property, while shifting the house and my clients had filed a complaint in respect of this to Bengaluru City Police Unit immediately after coming this to their knowledge.

Any person/s having found the same may kindly be returned to the undersigned or to the jurisdictional police or undersigned within 14 days from the date of this publication and if any person misusing the original one shall be prosecuted and if anyone entering into any transaction without my clients' knowledge with any third party our clients shall not be responsible for the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the Piece and Parcel of the property bearing Residential Apartment bearing Flat **No. 1004**, in the **Tenth Floor**, in the Project known an **"ARATT FERENZA"**, having 3 Bedrooms with super built up area of **1533** Square Feet, along with right to use Single car parking together with an undivided share of **526** Sq.feet in Survey No. 35/2, measuring 03 Acres 10 Guntas, situated at Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore.

Sd/- AKHILA ASSOCIATES (Advocates)
No.83, First Floor, Cropexium,
Service Road, Karthiknagar,
Doddanekkundi, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037. Ph. 9741300393 / 7624808373

INBRIEF

Amaravati will emerge as Green Hydrogen Valley: Naidu

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Friday declared that Amaravati will be developed as a Green Hydrogen Valley, positioning it at the forefront of India's clean energy revolution. Two major investment deals worth ₹51,000 crore were signed at the Green Hydrogen Summit-2025 in his presence. U.K.-based Yamna Company will invest ₹16,000 crore to build a one-million-tonne capacity green hydrogen plant in Nellore and KSH Infra will set up plants in Machilipatnam worth ₹35,000 crore.

Kerala government suspends Kollam school headmistress

A day after 13-year-old student Midhun was electrocuted at Thevalakkara Boys High School in Kollam district, the headmistress of the school was suspended on Friday. At a press conference, General Education Minister V. Sivankutty said that it has been decided to issue a show-cause notice to the school. The management should reply within three days. He added that an amount of ₹3 lakh will be provided to Midhun's family from the Education department's fund.

Kacheguda-Jodhpur Express to be flagged off today

Union Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw would flag off the inaugural service of the new daily train service from Kacheguda to Bhagat Ki Kothi (Jodhpur) – approved by the Railway Board – in the presence of Union Minister of Coal & Mines G. Kishan Reddy and others on Saturday evening. The regular service of Train No. 17605/17606 will start from July 20 from Kacheguda, and from Jodhpur from July 22.

Nimisha's case: SC asks Centre to decide on talks with Yemen

The Attorney-General says the government did not want to risk doing anything that might be counterproductive; he said the family should be the only entity involved in such cases

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to consider on its own merits any representation made by Nimisha Priya International Action Council, a group fighting to save the life of the Malayali nurse awaiting execution in Yemen for murder, for permission to travel to the country and negotiate with the victim's family for pardon and payment of blood money.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta was informed that the execution, earlier slated for July 16, was postponed owing to the efforts made by the government and Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar, a revered scholar from Kerala.

Attorney-General R. Venkataramani expressed the government's concern to bring Nimisha Priya back home safely. "All the government can do is being done," he said.

> The government does not mind giving permission. But if it does not happen, why get involved and create a problem by which the real issue is not solved
>
> **R. VENKATARAMANI**
> Attorney-General

Senior advocate Ragenth Basant, appearing for the Council, said the nurse's mother was in Yemen and alone. She was a domestic worker, and unable to carry out any negotiations with the murder victim's family.

Mr. Basant suggested a team consisting of representatives from the government, the Council and the cleric could travel to Yemen to reach out to the family of the murdered man.

"We have to get their pardon first. The family has to forgive us. After getting pardon, the blood money has to be decided," Mr. Basant submitted.

"It is not like we will grant permission and it will be possible for them to travel. There are so many issues – diplomatic intercountry relations involved. It is not easy. The government does not mind giving permission. But if it does not happen, why get involved and create a problem by which the real issue is not solved... We will consider... We do not wish to be counterproductive," Mr. Venkataramani reasoned.

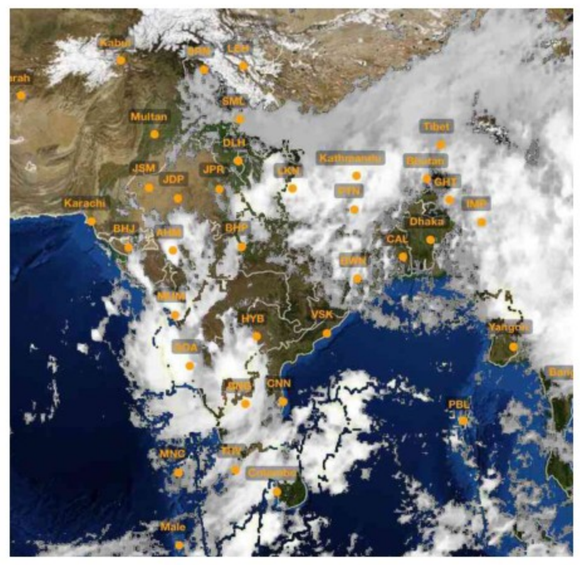
Mr. Basant said the government had given permission for the mother to travel to Yemen after approaching the Delhi High Court.

The Attorney-General said the family should be the only entity involved in such a situation while terming the Council as a 'good Samaritan'.

Putting the ball entirely in the government's court, the Bench listed the case on August 14.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	7.5	34.4	26.0	Kozhikode	25	27.8	23.8
Ahmedabad	—	34.3	28.0	Kurnool	23	31.4	24.9
Aizawl	5	31.1	21.8	Lucknow	7	35.4	25.8
Allahabad	46	35.0	25.0	Madurai	1	39.0	27.1
Bengaluru	7	27.9	20.1	Mangaluru	33.4	25.0	22.4
Bhopal	12	28.7	22.8	Mumbai	—	32.3	27.5
Bhubaneswar	—	35.0	26.9	Mysuru	—	28.4	20.0
Chandigarh	0.5	31.7	27.4	New Delhi	5	34.3	23.6
Chennai	—	35.5	25.8	Patna	9	35.6	26.5
Coimbatore	—	31.8	22.3	Port Blair	0.5	31.0	25.3
Dehradun	9	33.8	24.4	Puducherry	—	35.2	24.2
Gangtok	0.6	23.6	19.6	Pune	—	30.8	24.2
Goa	2	29.7	26.0	Raipur	17	32.9	25.0
Guwahati	0.4	34.9	26.4	Ranchi	4	31.8	23.6
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	5	25.4	17.5
Hyderabad	35	32.3	23.0	Shimla	3	24.2	20.0
Imphal	—	31.7	25.6	Srinagar	—	29.7	19.9
Jaipur	16.4	31.5	26.1	Thiruvananthapuram	3	31.2	23.6
Kochi	30	28.2	23.8	Tiruchi	—	34.8	27.4
Kohima	—	22.6	19.4	Vijayawada	5	35.4	24.6
Kolkata	—	35.0	28.2	Visakhapatnam	—	34.4	28.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	..93	.56	92	...100	
Bengaluru	.11	..13	.37	33	...102	
Chennai	...8	..15	.50	45	51	
Delhi	...3	..11	107	56	58	
Hyderabad	.10	..14	.28	78	87	
Kolkata	.11	..79	.26	33	46	
Lucknow	...9	..35	.43	33	55	
Mumbai	...4	..22	.34	43	...103	
Pune	..—	..55	.76	49	...110	
Visakhapatnam	.10	..18	...6	34	59	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Agartala, Tripura recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 225 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Karauli, Rajasthan recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Rahul says RSS, CPI(M) lack empathy; tells party members to emulate Chandy's legacy

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday accused the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) of not having any "feelings" for the people.

"I fight them in the realm of ideas and in the realm of speech. But, my biggest complaint is that they do not have feelings for the people," he said in his speech after inaugurating a memorial meeting at Puthuppally in Kottayam to mark the second death anniversary of former Kerala Chief Minister Chandy.

He called upon Congress leaders and members to emulate the legacy of former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy in addressing the needs of the people. "If you do not feel for the people or are not able to connect with them or hug them, you may not be a leader. The real tragedy in Indian politics is that very few people care for others, listen to them, or touch them. Oommen Chandy was one of the masters of political feeling I have come across in my political life," he said.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha also visited former Union Minister for Defence and veteran Congress leader A.K. Antony at his residence in Thiruvananthapuram.

SC refuses to intervene in YSRCP MP's bail plea

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday rejected an appeal filed by Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) MP P.V. Midhun Reddy challenging the Andhra Pradesh High Court's decision to deny him anticipatory bail in the liquor scam case.

A Bench headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala dismissed the special leave petition filed by Mr. Reddy, who was represented by senior advocates A.M. Singhvi and Mahfooz A. Nazki, after briefly hearing submissions by both sides.

Mr. Singhvi argued that the High Court had erred in its July 15 order, asserting that his client was no "fly-by-night operator" but a three-time Member of Parliament and a person of high repute. He submitted that there was no justification for arresting Mr. Reddy, particularly when there were no substantive allegations against him and the case was entirely false.

"The entire endeavour of the State is to harass the petitioner and to injure and humiliate him by having him arrested," Mr. Reddy's counsel argued.

Appearing for the State, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi contended that in May, the same Bench of the top court had refused anticipatory bail to K. Dhananjaya Reddy and P. Krishna Mohan Reddy, both of whom had served in former Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's office. The court had at the time observed that pre-arrest bail would "come in the way of the investigating agency if it wanted their custodial interrogation."

Rainy ride

Rain lashed parts of Hyderabad on Friday afternoon forcing pedestrians and motorists to find shelter. The India Meteorological Department has issued a heavy rainfall warning for 10 districts in Telangana, including Hyderabad, for Saturday. NAGARA GOPAL

Check if idols were illegally installed at Sabarimala: HC

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court has sought a probe into the alleged permission granted by the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) to a private person to install an idol of Lord Ayyappa at the Sabarimala temple.

The High Court was holding a hearing in a *suo motu* case taken in this regard.

A Division Bench of Justice Anil K. Narendran and Justice Muralee Krishna S. also directed the Chief Police Coordinator of the temple to submit a report on the alleged distribution of pamphlets to mobilise funds for the purpose.

The Sabarimala Special Commissioner was also directed to inspect whether idols and cash-donation boxes had been placed illegally on the Sannidhanam premises and submit a report in this regard.

The government's counsel said the police had started a probe into the issue and steps had been taken to inform pilgrims about this through the virtual queue platform.

The High Court had recently sought all files related to the alleged permission granted by the TDB to the private person to install the idol. The court initiated the proceedings based on a report filed by R. Jayakrishnan, Sabarimala Special Commissioner, who noted that the TDB had permitted the chairperson of a multi-specialty hospital in Erode to install an idol of Ayyappa made of panchaloham, an alloy of five precious metals, at the temple, without hindering the temple structure and rituals.

The report also took note of the distribution of pamphlets bearing bank account number, QR code, and mobile numbers that said that a two-feet high idol weighing 108 kg and costing ₹9 lakh was to be installed there.

A fundraising campaign had started, on the strength of the 'permission' granted by the TDB, creating an impression that he was authorised to do so by the TDB and the State government, it said. The Sabarimala Tantri had informed the Special Commissioner that he was unaware of the alleged attempt to install the idol, which was against temple rituals. The Special Commissioner sought the interference of the court in the issue and stringent directives to stop such practices.

AIAMA to adopt BIS certification for agarbathi industry to benchmark quality

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The All-India Agarbathi Manufacturing Association (AIAMA) on Friday said it would adopt the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification to maintain a quality benchmark for the ₹8,000-crore agarbathi industry in India.

Ambica Ramanjaneyulu, president of the AIAMA, told *The Hindu* that the apex body was focusing on value addition, premiumisation, innovation, and quality. "Through this initiative, we aim to instil pride and deepen the sense of belonging among all stakeholders in the agarbathi ecosystem," said Mr. Ramanjaneyulu, who is also the director of Ambica Agarbathies Aroma & Industries based in Hyderabad.

Addressing the media, Arjun Ranga, immediate past president of AIAMA and MD of Cycle Pure Agarbatti, said, "Over the years, the global demand for agarbathis has witnessed a significant rise. Our vision is to bring the entire agarbathi fraternity up to speed with the evolving business landscape and more exciting opportunities."

According to him, India currently produces between 16,000 tonnes and 20,000 tonnes of incense sticks a month, and over two lakh women are employed in the industry. The country exports ₹1,000 crore worth of agarbathis to 120 countries, while 80% of the production is sold in domestic markets. The AIAMA directly and indirectly represents over 800 and 3,000 agarbathi manufacturers, respectively, across the country. Cumulatively, the industry has over 5,000 different agarbathi products.

As a step towards building a holistic ecosystem, the AIAMA will organise a three-day expo and conference scheduled from November 6 to 8 in Bengaluru.

IIA decodes reason behind May 2024 solar eruptions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Astronomers at the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have decoded the reasons behind the series of powerful solar eruptions or Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) that resulted in rare northern lights dancing across the Ladakh's night skies in May 2024.

These findings offer a major step forward in the improvement of space weather forecasting models, particularly in predicting the impact of complex CME events on Earth's magnetosphere.

CMEs are massive ejections of magnetised plasma from the Sun's corona. When such solar blasts are directed toward the Earth, they can cause geomagnetic storms capable of disrupting satellite operations, communication systems, and power grids.

Rare sequence

According to the Department of Science and Technology, the great geomagnetic storm that started on May 10, 2024, was linked to a rare sequence of six different CMEs erupting in succession, and it was associated with both solar flares and filament eruptions from an interacting complex active region on the Sun.

Until now, gaining a complete understanding of how CMEs evolve thermodynamically as they travel from the Sun to Earth has remained challenging, primarily due to limited observations near the Sun as well as in near-Earth space.

To bridge this gap, a team of solar astrophysicists led by Wageesh Mishra, a faculty member at IIA, used observations from the NASA and ESA space missions.

Model built

They built a model to investigate the manner in which the rare chain of six interacting solar blasts reported from IIA's Indian Astronomical Observatory at Hanle in Ladakh interacted with each other and evolved thermally en route from the Sun to Earth.

"The study is the first of its kind, both in India and internationally, to capture the continuous thermodynamic evolution of multiple interacting CMEs across such a vast distance in the heliosphere," said Dr. Mishra.

"Our analysis demonstrates that CME-CME interactions lead to significant thermal restructuring within. By the time they reach the Earth, the electrons in the complex ejecta were found to be in the heat-releasing state, while ions displayed a mix of heating and cooling behaviour, with the heating state being the dominant mode overall," said Soumyaranjan Khuntia, the lead author and a doctoral scholar at IIA.

All in one

Agriculture needs more public spending, not just one umbrella scheme

The Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), a scheme approved by the Union Cabinet, is to be implemented through the convergence of 36 existing schemes across 11 Departments. According to Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the scheme seeks to address the "disparities in productivity" between States, and even among districts within a State. The Centre's pet schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) and the PM Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) as well as relevant State schemes, to be identified by the District Dhan Dhaanya Samitis, will be subsumed in the PMDDKY. Local partnerships with the private sector will also be promoted under the proposed scheme, which will begin in October during the *rabi* crop season. The scheme is to get an annual outlay of ₹24,000 crore for six years. Modelled on NITI Aayog's Aspirational Districts Programme, the Centre will identify 100 districts based on low productivity and cropping intensity and less credit disbursement. The hope is that the scheme will result in higher productivity, value addition in agriculture and allied sectors, local livelihood creation, leading to increased domestic production and self-reliance. This convergence of schemes must be viewed in the background of decreasing public spending on agriculture. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, in the latest report on Demands for Grants, had observed a continuous decline, from 3.53% in 2021-22 to 3.14% (2022-23), 2.57% (2023-24), 2.54% (2024-25) and 2.51% (2025-26), of the allocations for agriculture as a percentage of total Central Plan outlay.

This aggregation of all schemes under one umbrella suggests that the Government wants uniformity in running the welfare, financial and technical schemes in the agriculture sector. It is keen to add States' measures too in the new scheme. It remains to be seen how effective such uniformity will be on the ground as further decrease in public investment in agriculture could be disastrous. Private-public partnerships should be for the larger good of self-reliance, particularly in the production of foodgrains, edible oil and pulses. The progress of area coverage under *kharif* crops, released last week, points to a decrease in the sowing of oil seeds and popular pulses. Though it promotes national uniformity, it is welcome that the new scheme will function based on 'District Plans' that will be aligned to the national goals of crop diversification, conservation of water and soil health, self-sufficiency in agriculture and allied sectors. For the PMDDKY, the Centre will monitor 117 key indicators of progress on a monthly basis. But to make it more participatory, States, local self governments, primary agriculture cooperative societies, agriculture universities and organisations of farmers and traders must be involved in this process.

Taking responsibility

The Karnataka government must share the blame for the stampede

For many cricket lovers in Bengaluru and Karnataka, the one lingering disappointment was the persisting failure of Royal Challengers Bengaluru to win the Indian Premier League (IPL) trophy. Virat Kohli may have been king across the world but in the IPL he was not, until a dramatic change of fortunes at the very end of his career. The cup win in 2025 was to be the crowning glory of Kohli, RCB, and, eventually, Bengaluru itself. But tragically enough, the stampede at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium during the victory celebrations on June 4 upended that glory. In its probe of the stampede that killed 11 and left 71 injured, the John Michael D'Cunha Commission has come down severely on the RCB management and the police. It has pinpointed the cause as "not regulating the entry into the gates and making reckless announcements with regard to the entry into the stadium". It has named many and recommended legal action against them while discussing how such gatherings can be made safer and the medical backups that may be required. But its terms of inquiry were limited and missed the bigger picture. Blame must be apportioned to all stakeholders who just did not think of the consequences of calling for such a large gathering and going ahead with it without the permissions and arrangements. The police must be faulted for not beefing up the arrangements at the stadium's entry and exit points. But it may not be fair to blame them for allowing the event – it had practically become a fait accompli as the administration was going along with the celebrations and the euphoria.

The stadium event was among the three planned that day. As if to kick off the celebrations, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah felicitated the team in an open-air event outside the Vidhana Soudha in the morning. These celebrations set the tone for what unfolded that day. To their credit, the police did refuse to allow the planned victory parade on an open bus. And at the Vidhana Soudha, where only a few among the lakhs who had gathered got to see their favourite stars, an announcement was made that people could proceed to the stadium which has a seating capacity of just 32,000. In a broader sense though, the stampede was a reflection of the realities of urban life too, where massive flash crowds can generate from communities sharing a common passion and kindled by social media. Urban planners and managers have little clue on how to handle such mobilisations, which have resulted in stampedes at religious, social and cultural events, leading to the loss of hundreds of lives.

Indian inequality and the World Bank's claims

Ram Singh

is Director, Delhi School of Economics, Member, Monetary Policy Committee of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and Member, Technical Expert Group for the First Household Income Survey, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India

Inequality is an important concern for the political economy of a democracy. However, the Indian inequality debate is often characterised by the selective use of data to make exaggerated claims that fuel misperceptions rather than result in a better understanding. The sharp reactions to a recent World Bank report ("India Poverty and Equity Brief: April 2025") are an illustrative case in point.

The World Bank report claims that India has almost eradicated extreme poverty. Further, it claims, the country has significantly reduced consumption inequality since 2011-12, in terms of consumption patterns of the population. In terms of the Gini coefficient, a measure of inequality, the report (without separating the consumption and income inequality-based estimates) has placed India among the top four least unequal countries. These findings have created quite a stir, as the media and the public are accustomed to reports claiming very high inequality in India. What has happened?

What it is based on

The World Bank's claims about the Indian inequality are based on the official Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) data for 2022-2023. This data is collected using the modified mixed reference period (MMRP) method, which employs the state-of-the-art statistical technique. As the World Bank report correctly observes, "The MMRP is considered an improvement and alignment with international best practices..." The World Bank has adjusted the Indian data to account for some but not all government-provided free goods and services.

The World Bank finds that during 2011-12 and 2022-23, India registered a major decline in consumption inequality; in this period, the consumption-based Gini coefficient dropped from 28.8 to 25.5.

Critics of the report argue that the World Bank has underestimated the inequality, as the HCES data does not capture consumption by the rich. It is a valid critique, but India is not an exception. This limitation applies to all survey data in all countries and, in itself, does not question the broad ranking of countries. Even if we discount the precision of the World Bank's inequality estimates, a significant improvement in India's international ranking is a fact. Of course, we should not confuse consumption inequality with income inequality.

The decrease in India's consumption inequality is substantial and indisputable. To address the data issue, let us assume that the problem of missing elite consumption is more pronounced in India – say, the HCES rounds do not capture consumption by the top 5% families at all. In that case, going by the consumption expenditure data, it is irrefutable that the consumption inequality has decreased between 2011-12 and 2022-23 for the remaining 95% of the population covered in HCES data.

> Even if the precision of the World Bank's inequality estimates is discounted, a significant improvement in India's international ranking is a fact

The HCES data show that the country's consumption basket is healthier today than ever. Between 2012 and 2023, the per capita availability of milk and eggs has increased by 45% and 63%, respectively. The availability of fruits, vegetables and protein products has increased. The share of cereals in the food bill, as well as calorie intake, has decreased, while that of healthier products has increased, for all strata. All this improves the diet for the 95%, rather than the richest groups, whose consumption already matches the best in the world.

The dietary intake improvements are most striking for the bottom 20% of households in rural and urban areas, even if we ignore the free food and cash transfers received by these groups. The share of rural households consuming fresh fruits (to a different frequency) has increased from 63.8% in 2011-12 to 90% in 2023.

The 2022-23 and 2023-24 rounds of consumption data irrefutably demonstrate that extreme poverty has been almost eradicated. Whether we use the Rangarajan, Tendulkar, or the multi-dimensional poverty index of NITI Aayog, poverty has declined significantly. Based on the International Poverty Line of $3 between 2011 and 2023, India has pulled around 27 crore people out of extreme poverty.

Independently, the nightlight data show a significant increase in ownership rates of pucca homes and paved roads in rural areas over the last 10 years, owing to the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Awas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Among the poorest 20% of households, more than 40% own a vehicle today, compared to just 6% in 2011-12. This enables rural workers to work part-time in nearby cities without having to migrate. If we factor in these and the other policies targeted at the bottom of the pyramid, such as Ayushman Bharat, the aggregates of welfare for the poor would look even better.

Examining income levels

True, it is important to examine income inequality separately from consumption inequality. There is no official income survey data yet. The mainstream media and commentators use the income shares of the top 1%, as estimated by the World Inequality Lab (WIL) to argue that the income inequality is very high in India, disregarding critical limitations of these estimates.

Given the lack of data on income distribution, the WIL uses the income tax data to estimate top income levels. They use the old consumption data and estimates of the income-consumption relationship to estimate income for low- and middle-income households. The latter estimates unrealistically assume that consumption expenditure exceeds income for 70%-80% of households. How can it be that all families, except the top 20-30%, spend more than they earn, year after year?

As an inevitable consequence of using such an implausible assumption, the income of the bottom 80% gets underestimated. This reduces their estimated share of national income. Conversely, shares of top income groups are overestimated.

Even if we ignore these limitations, we do not find an increase in income inequality. Taking the WIL estimates as they stand, the national income shares of the bottom 50% have increased from 13.9% in 2017 to 15% in 2022. During the same period, the share of the top 10% has decreased from 58.8% to 57.7%.

The high national income shares of the top 1% are a matter of concern. However, since 2017, the income shares of the top 1% have increased by only 0.3 percentage points. Research by this writer indicates that a part of this increase is attributable to improved income reporting by affluent groups in response to the Centre's anti-tax evasion measures since 2016-17. Better reporting should not be mistaken for increased inequality.

Furthermore, the WIL inequality estimates used by the media and commentators are based on pre-tax income levels. However, it is the post-tax and post-subsidy/transfer income that matters to people. Therefore, to be meaningful, income inequality estimates should be based on the post-tax rather than the pre-tax income. For instance, in the assessment year 2023-24, the top 1% of all taxpayers accounted for 72.77% of the total tax paid. Even in the individual category, the top 1% paid 42% of the total tax paid.

Arguably, wealthy individuals should pay more taxes, but the point is that even at the existing tax rates, the actual post-tax income of top-income taxpayers is only 65%-75% of the levels used in headline-grabbing estimates. For low-income groups, in contrast, the income levels used are smaller than the actual effective income, which is higher, due to the all-time high welfare transfers that account for more than 8% of GDP. On a post-subsidy, post-tax income basis, over the last decade, we will find a decrease in income inequality in recent years.

The other story about India

Admittedly, we must travel a long way before we can claim to be an egalitarian society. Inequality in accessing quality health and education is a serious concern. For a country of our size and diversity, inevitably, there are many lived realities. However, the story of India is not just about poverty and inequality any more; it is about progress and aspirations too. While being mindful of the current problems and challenges ahead, let us also celebrate the country's successes.

The views expressed are personal

The mental health of pilots is the elephant in the room

Captain S. Sabu

is an airline pilot and a member of the Flight Safety Foundation

Subsequent to the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau's release of its preliminary report of the accident involving an Air India Boeing 787 flight at Ahmedabad on June 12, 2025, there has been a lot of debate on social media platforms and YouTube channels about pilot involvement. This has, in turn, led to further discussion on the sensitive topic of the mental health of pilots. While one should not indulge in speculation about the cause of the accident until the final report is published, there is no better time than now to examine this topic, which is, unfortunately, considered taboo.

Though there have been at least 19 documented cases of pilot suicides, where pilots used aircraft to end their own lives and those of others, it was the Germanwings disaster (flight 9525 in March 2015) which served as a wake-up call about pilot mental health. In this accident, the investigation revealed that the captain had left the cockpit and the copilot used this time to fly the Airbus A320 into a mountain killing all 150 passengers on board.

Factors in the life of a pilot

Pilots, by nature, are a group of people who will not accept any form of human weakness willingly and will instead opt to bear the rough ride and hide their pain. Added to this are the consequences of any voluntary disclosure, which could mean the end of the pilot's career. In addition to the normal stressors that the general public are exposed to, there are other factors unique to the profession which place undue demands both on a pilot at the physiological level and the psychological level. In the course of their job, pilots are expected to "sleep to order" in unfamiliar locations that are spread across various time zones. However, this is next to impossible and, obviously, results in long periods of wakefulness and sleep debt. Frequent changes in the roster also disturb a pilot's work-life balance, in turn affecting relationships with other members of the pilot's family. In addition, escalating training costs and stagnant salaries impose financial pressures. With the widespread use of social media, people in general are exposed to more depressing events. These affect all of us – pilots are also human beings and, therefore, not immune to it. The stress of modern living in cities also throws up its own set of challenges.

> Airline managements and regulators need to adopt a very progressive attitude on this sensitive topic

How airline managements can help crew

A study by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, U.S. (which included Joseph G. Allen, Associate Professor of Exposure Assessment Science), titled "Airplane pilot mental health and suicidal thoughts", conducted a cross-sectional descriptive study using an anonymous web-based survey. Analysis of the study showed that 12.6% of the pilots who answered the survey crossed the threshold of criteria for having depression, and an astonishing 4.1% said they considered suicide within the preceding two weeks.

Airline operators can play a major role in alleviating the stress on aircrew. For example, there can be policies that allow pilots to proceed on paid leave when going through life-changing events such as divorce, the loss of a loved one, attending to a sick child or even taking care of a child who has learning difficulties. The majority of pilots have a high degree of resilience and it will only be a very small minority who may opt for leave citing such circumstances – this is not going to cause a dent in the finances of the company. A minor short-term issue can be prevented from escalating into a serious problem.

Though there is no evidence that the captain of the Malaysian Airlines flight, MH370 (March 2014), committed suicide, it was reported that he had marital problems and was living a lonely life. Airlines should have very active peer support programmes that are managed solely by pilot groups. The social stigma associated with this should be removed and steps should be taken to improve the trust between aviation medical specialists and the pilots. Another very pragmatic approach is to permit pilots diagnosed with certain conditions to continue flying as long as they receive treatment. It is better to know and monitor than not knowing. A person could function very safely with aviation-approved medication and regular follow up. As the Federal Air Surgeon of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said in 2022, "Early treatment is a win-win: the person gets help more quickly; typically, the symptoms are less severe and obtaining a special issuance is more likely to be successful."

In the United States, the FAA has finally acknowledged that there is a problem and recently established a Mental Health and Aviation Medical Clearances Aviation Rulemaking Committee which is expected to make major changes.

Changes in the system

India's regulator, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), should adopt a very progressive attitude towards finding a solution. Requiring pilots to undergo detailed mental health tests will only be counterproductive and impose more mental burdens on the pilots. There are severe limitations in objectively assessing mental health and if the test is subjective without specific criteria, it will only open up more issues. People with mental health conditions might go without being diagnosed and others could be misdiagnosed. The most pragmatic solution will be to educate pilots to recognise signs of depression in their colleagues. Flight instructors can be an important link in this as they get to see the difficulties experienced by trainees much before other peers.

The Union Ministry of Health should also enact legislation defining rules that require health-care providers to inform the appropriate authorities when a patient's health is very likely to impact public safety, while, at the same time, protecting the patient's personal/private data from unnecessary disclosure. While we may not be able to completely eliminate the risk, we can effectively manage the risks by a balanced approach and following best practices.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A musical bond

The article, "The musical bond", which covered the conversation between mridangam maestro Umayalpuram Sivaraman and Marxist leader M.A. Baby, at *The Hindu* office (Friday Review, July 18) took me back in time. Comrade A.S.R. Chari (Delhi), an eminent barrister, was so fond of Carnatic music that every year he would arrange for a programme of Chamber music in his sprawling bungalow in Defence Colony. He was a close friend of Flute Mali. I attended a performance of Mali in his house where Mali played the Kapi Rag for four hours — it was the favourite Rag of Chari.

Indira Parthasarathy,
Chennai

Clean city

It is commendable that Indore has been recognised for sustained cleanliness (Page 1, July 18). No programme can become a success without the wholehearted cooperation of the people. Every city and municipal corporation must emulate Indore's success story.

Kshirasagara Balaji Rao,
Hyderabad

Corrections & Clarifications

Bilaspur is a city in Chhattisgarh, and not in Madhya Pradesh, as given in a report, "Ahmedabad tops cleanliness chart for cities above 10 lakh population in India" (July 18, 2025).

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Falling through the cracks

The remains of vehicles that fell into the Mahisagar river when a portion of the Mujpur-Ghambira bridge collapsed in Vadodara district. VIJAY SONEJI

Earlier this month, 20 people were killed in Gujarat when a segment of the Mujpur-Ghambira bridge fell into the swollen Mahisagar river below. Residents say they had flagged concerns about the safety of the structure, but claim that the authorities either ignored them or took no action despite admitting that there were risks. **Abhinay Deshpande** reports on the tragedy in a State where at least six bridges have collapsed in the last four years

For years, Sonalben Ramesh Padhiyar, 32, and Ramesh, 32, the parents of four girls, had prayed for a son. Their wish – in a country that still prefers sons over daughters – came true two years ago when Sonal gave birth to a boy, Naitik. The couple were elated and decided that they would go to the Bapa Sitaram temple in Bagdana village of Bhavnagar district in Gujarat to thank the saint, Bapa Sitaram, for answering their prayers. They never got around to doing this until July 9. That morning, the two of them got into a car with Naitik, their 4-year-old daughter, Vedika, and three relatives, and set out from Dariyapur in Vadodara district.

Five kilometres from their house was the four-decade-old Mujpur-Ghambira bridge, which had repeatedly been flagged as structurally unsafe by the residents of Vadodara.

A trembling Sonal recalls the moments they drove over the bridge and a part of it gave way. "I was sitting in the rear seat," she says. "When we were on the bridge, the car suddenly plunged into the Mahisagar river below. After we hit the water, I somehow managed to smash the rear windshield and get out. I stood on top of the sinking car and clutched some cables that were dangling from the bridge. I held onto them and screamed for help for nearly two hours."

Sonal was the only family member to survive the incident. The tragedy, which the Gujarat government said occurred owing to structural failure, claimed 20 lives and left four injured. One person remains missing.

Sitting on the floor of a relative's house with one bandaged arm and a bruised forehead and legs, Sonal says she screamed, "*Bachao! Maro dikro doobi gayo, maro gharwalo doobi gayo* (Save me! My son has drowned; my husband has drowned)". Bystanders on the riverbank and the remaining portion of the bridge recorded videos of her, but no one came to her rescue. A video showing her pleading with onlookers to save her family went viral online.

Sonal is grief-stricken and also worried. As Ramesh was the sole breadwinner of the family, she says she will now have to figure a way of providing for her three remaining daughters and ageing in-laws. Pulling her *ghunghat* (head covering) over her head, she cries remembering how help arrived late. "By then the river had nothing to give me back except bodies," she says.

A crumbling bridge

The Vadodara district collector, Anil Dhameliya, says rescue teams recovered 12 bodies and rescued five people on the day of the tragedy. The following day, they retrieved six more bodies. On the third day, they recovered one body. One of the injured victims died during treatment.

The Mujpur-Ghambira bridge serves as a vital link between central Gujarat and the Saurashtra region to the west. Construction of the bridge began in 1981, and it was officially opened to the public in 1985. It is an 832-metre-long bridge with 23 spans. (A span is the horizontal space between two supports of a structure.) Many commuters, especially heavy vehicles, preferred using this bridge, which helped them bypass the toll on the Ahmedabad-Vadodara Expressway. With the bridge closed after the incident, the only way to reach Saurashtra from central Gujarat is now through Vasad town, an extra 50 km.

Dhameliya says the bridge collapsed at around 7.40 a.m. "The community was the first responder. The police and ambulances reached within 10 minutes of the incident. Rescue teams arrived at the site by 8.20 a.m.," he says. Officials say it took some more time to rescue the survivors.

> The bridge had developed cracks and shook whenever a heavy vehicle passed
>
> **HARSHADSINH PARMAR**
> District panchayat member

In 2017, the Opposition Congress and many residents of Vadodara flagged concerns regarding the safety of the bridge. They say they had also called for a ban on heavy vehicles on the bridge. "The bridge had developed cracks and shook whenever a heavy vehicle passed," says district panchayat member, Harshadsinh Parmar.

Sonal's father-in-law, Ravjibhai, 72, says they begged the government to repair the "crumbling bridge", but their requests were ignored. Ravjibhai has lost not only his son and two grandchildren, but also his two sons-in-law and a distant relative in the tragedy.

"Ramesh was my only son. Naitik was born after years of prayers," Ravjibhai says as he greets relatives, residents, and local leaders who have come to offer their condolences. "My wife was in shock on receiving the news and collapsed. She had to be hospitalised. My entire family is gone and the government is responsible for the incident," he says.

Dhameliya accepts that residents had repeatedly raised concerns about the bridge's deteriorating condition with local officers. "While some repair work had been carried out, the State government had also proposed constructing a new bridge after visits from technical teams," he says.

In response to initial findings of negligence, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel suspended four officials from the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department. "Wherever lapses have come to light, action has been taken. The government will not hesitate to take further necessary measures," said Patel, who holds the R&B Department portfolio.

State Health Minister Rushikesh Patel, who is also a government spokesperson, said that a high-level probe was being conducted by the R&B Department. "As per the committee's initial findings, the collapse occurred due to 'crushing of the pedestal and articulation'," the Minister said, without offering any further explanation. He said that a detailed report would be submitted to the Chief Minister within 30 days.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bhupendra Patel announced ex gratia amounts of ₹2 lakh and ₹4 lakh, respectively, for the families of the deceased, and ₹50,000 for each injured person.

Sonalben Ramesh Padhiyar managed to save herself but lost her husband, son, and daughter in the bridge collapse. VIJAY SONEJI

> There was no response to Harshadsinh Parmar's complaint. So I took it up with a department officer. He acknowledged the risks, but no action followed
>
> **LAKHAN DARBAR**
> Social activist

On July 13, the Chief Minister approved ₹212 crore for the construction of a new two-lane bridge over the Mahisagar river, which will run parallel to the collapsed structure. He says the project will be completed in 18 months.

Ignoring concerns

On the third day after the incident, National Disaster Response Force personnel continue to carry out rescue operations with quiet determination. Some of them wade waist-deep in the water, others carry stretchers, and a few board inflatable boats to continue the search for the missing. Officers oversee the operations from a tent put up on the banks of the river.

When one of the teams brings back a body, Parmar points towards it and says, "This could have been prevented if the bridge had been closed to vehicles years ago. In so-called progressive Gujarat, it is taking them more than three days to carry out rescue operations."

Social activist Lakhan Darbar, founder of a group called Yuva Sena in Vadodara, says the issue of safety first gained attention in August 2022. Parmar, who is also a Yuva Sena member, submitted a written complaint about the bridge's condition to officials from the R&B Department and provided representations to the district collector.

"There was no response to Parmar's complaint and representations," he says. "So I took it up with a department officer. He acknowledged the risks, but no action followed."

Darbar also shares an audio recording of his conversation with the R&B department officer. In the clip, Darbar is heard saying that the department should either repair or reconstruct the bridge given the dangers it posed to commuters. "People's lives are in danger but no action has been taken yet. We will sit on a fast if steps are not taken," he is heard saying.

The officer is heard responding that a survey by a private consultant had also flagged concerns. He admits that the bridge may not last much longer. "Even we believe that the bridge may not survive for long... how can we just shut the bridge? We have informed our superiors. A proposal to either rebuild or strengthen the structure has been sent. Our design team will inspect it," the official says.

Where the light has gone out

Bamangam is located on one side of the bridge. There are no street lights here. Villagers use torches and mobile phones at night to navigate their way.

Jayantibhai Rathod, a daily wage worker, sits outside his house in near-total darkness. His son, Atul, 21, had lost his life in the bridge collapse. Two other men from the village, Mohan Chavda and Dilip Padiyar, also died in the incident. All three of them were travelling together on a motorcycle to Mujpur to report for work at their respective companies, says Rathod.

He says Atul had joined a pharmaceutical company after a month-long internship only six days before the incident. "All my three children studied at night using lanterns. Atul studied very hard and we were thrilled when he got the job. I was relieved that he would share familial responsibilities. But god took him away," says Rathod.

About 200 m from Rathod's house is Mohan Chavda's house at the edge of a village pond. It is locked. When the hospital handed over Mohan's body to his family, they took it to his brother's house, which was safer and easier to reach.

"We got our daughter married in February and had to repay a loan of ₹1.75 lakh. Mohan was planning to withdraw part of his provident fund to clear the debt and had been anxious about it," says his wife, Sitaben.

Falling bridges

The Opposition parties in Gujarat have remained united in their condemnation of the BJP government. Former Chief Minister Shankersinh Vaghela launched a scathing attack against the government, claiming that the tragedy is the "price of the BJP's 30-year misrule." Congress leaders Amit Chavda and Manish Doshi demanded a high-level judicial probe, and Supriya Shrinate said that the "hollow 'Gujarat Model' is another name for corruption". The Aam Aadmi Party's Isudan Gadhvi called it "a man-made disaster."

The Trinamool Congress also criticised the government, recalling that a British-era suspension bridge in Morbi, Gujarat, had collapsed three years ago, killing at least 135 people. The party questioned the State's infrastructure and called for accountability. "Is this the much-celebrated "Gujarat Model" that PM @narendramodi continues to champion? Will this too be dismissed as an 'Act of God' or will you finally accept it for what it is: AN ACT OF FRAUD!" said its post on X.

At least six bridges have collapsed since 2021 in Gujarat. The Morbi incident took place in 2022. In June 2023, a newly constructed bridge on the Mindhola river in Tapi district collapsed; no casualties were reported. In September that year, four people were injured when a portion of an old bridge on the Bhogavo river in Surendranagar district gave way after a 40-tonne dumper attempted to cross it. In August 2024, a small bridge over the Bhogavo river, connecting Habiyasar village to Chotila town in Surendranagar, collapsed due to sudden water discharge from an overflowing dam. No fatalities were reported.

Out of the 7,000 bridges in the State that have been surveyed, the government has identified the ones that need repairs or need to be reconstructed, Minister Patel said.

Since the incident, the government has shut down five bridges – two in Morbi district and three in Surendranagar district – on the Narmada canal network. Authorities have also restricted heavy vehicle movement on four bridges and listed 36 others for urgent repairs. After the collapse, the Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited, which oversees the canal system, conducted technical assessments of over 2,110 bridges located across national highways, State highways, and rural roads.

Parmar is unimpressed. "They have decided to construct a new bridge only after all these lives were lost. They ignored repeated requests from the locals to check these bridges. Will this government respond to people's concerns only after deaths occur," he asks.

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From Page One

U.S. adds TRF to terror list for Pahalgam strike

In response, Mr. Jaishankar said: "A strong affirmation of India-US counter-terrorism cooperation. Appreciate Secretary Rubio and State Department for designating TRF - a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) proxy - as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). It claimed responsibility for the April 22 Pahalgam attack. Zero tolerance for terrorism."

Judge challenges SC probe in cash case

The in-house procedure, devised by the Supreme Court, had no legal sanction, the petition argued, claiming that it was a threat to the separation of powers. Justice Varma urged the top court to declare the in-house procedure unconstitutional. The petition argued that the in-house inquiry procedure against sitting judges was also a threat to judicial independence, an essential part of the basic structure of the Constitution.

Justice Varma made a direct attack on former CJI Khanna, saying the latter did not give him a personal hearing after the committee report came out nor had he afforded him a chance to properly review the document.

The petition pointed out that the inquiry reached its conclusions merely on the basis of presumption. There was not even a formal complaint about the 'discovery' of cash.

Justice Varma said the committee was unfair to him and did not find the answers it was constituted for.

ED arrests Bhupesh Baghel's son Chaitanya

Claiming that the arrest was arbitrary and flouted procedure, the former Chief Minister and Congress leader alleged that his son was targeted after the party raised the issue of tree felling in the Tamnar tehsil of Raigarh district, for a coal mine project of the Adani Group and that anyone who "opposes Adani would meet the same fate as Chaitanya Baghel".

The mine was allotted to the Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Limited (MAHAGENCO), which has contracted the Adani Group as the MDO (mine developer-cum-operator). Earlier this month, the senior Congress leader had visited Tamnar and extended support to the protesters.

A Raipur court remanded Mr. Chaitanya in ED custody till July 22.

The Congress boycotted the Assembly proceedings on Friday, the last day of the ongoing session, over the ED's action against Mr. Chaitanya.

(With inputs from Devesh K. Pandey)

Gujarat refinery hit by EU sanctions

"For the first time, we're designating a flag registry and the biggest Rosneft refinery in India," the EU's highest-ranking diplomat, Kaja Kallas, said on X, while listing the highlights of the 18th sanctions package.

Rosneft, a Russian energy giant, has a 49.13% stake in Nayara Energy's refinery (formerly Essar Oil Ltd.), based in Vadinar, Gujarat. The remainder is owned by SPV Kesani Enterprises Co. Ltd., and individual investors.

The refinery is India's second largest, producing 4,00,000 barrels per day and operating 6,300 plus petrol pumps across India, as per its website. The company has reportedly been in talks with Reliance Industries Ltd. regarding a sale of its stake.

"Each sanction weakens Russia's ability to wage war. The message is clear: Europe will not back down in its support for Ukraine," Ms. Kallas said in a statement.

'Full-fledged sanctions' (travel bans, asset freezes, ban on providing resources) will apply to the refinery as per a statement from the EU.

The new package sanctions 14 individuals and 41 entities, bringing the total number of EU-listed entities to over 2,500. It also contains enhanced sanctions on Russia's so-called 'shadow fleet' – ships that are sanctioned or transacting in sanctioned goods.

An additional 105 vessels will now be subject to a ban from accessing EU ports and banned from a wide range of maritime services, bringing the total number of listed vessels to 444. A captain of a shadow fleet vessel and operator of an unnamed international flag registry have also been "listed" (i.e., subject to sanctions).

As part of enhanced banking sanctions, the number of banks sanctioned and the breadth of the sanctions is set to increase and will include a total transaction ban for 45 Russian banks.

Twenty-six new entities have been added to the sanctions list for supplying dual-use goods to Russia and more companies have been sanctioned for supplying to Russia and Belarus's military-industrial complex, as per a statement from the European Council.

The new oil price cap – set at 15% below the average market price of Russian crude – while not adopted by the entire G7 – was also adopted by the U.K., as the U.K.'s Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) announced.

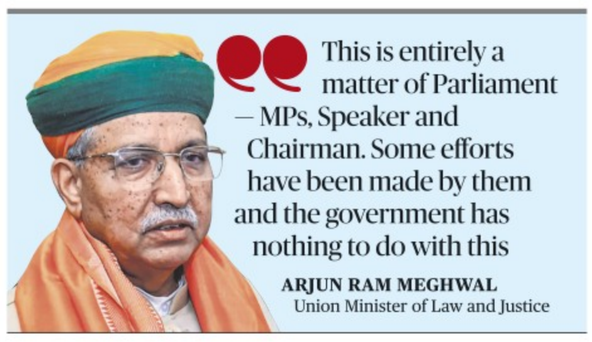
Motion to remove judge not related to govt., says Minister

Meghwal says it is Justice Yashwant Varma's prerogative to pursue legal recourse if he disagrees with the report by the panel that probed the discovery of unaccounted-for cash at his residence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said on Friday that the motion of removal against Allahabad High Court judge Yashwant Varma was related not to the government but with Parliament and the members of Parliament (MPs).

He said this on a day when Justice Varma moved the Supreme Court against a report of an in-house panel put together by former Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice Sanjeev Khanna, to probe reports of unaccounted-for cash being found at Justice Varma's official residence.


This is entirely a matter of Parliament – MPs, Speaker and Chairman. Some efforts have been made by them and the government has nothing to do with this
ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL
Union Minister of Law and Justice

Panel report

In an interview to *PTI Videos*, Mr. Meghwal said the in-house committee set up by the then CJI had already submitted its report.

If Justice Varma did not agree with the report and approached the Supreme Court or a High Court, it was his prerogative, the Minister said, maintaining that Parliament had the right to remove a Supreme Court or High Court judge.

The support of at least 100 members in the Lok Sabha and 50 in the Rajya Sabha was needed to pass a motion for the impeachment of a judge, he added.

Mr. Meghwal said this was entirely a matter of the MPs. Some efforts had been made by them and the government was "not in the picture", he stated.

Justice Varma has sought the quashing of the May 8 recommendation by then CJI Khanna to remove him from his position.

The government is pushing for a motion to remove Justice Varma in the Parliament's Monsoon Session, scheduled to start on July 21.

Congress's support

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has said his party MPs will also sign the motion, with an outreach having taken place by Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju across party lines.

He said that before the session commences, there would be a meeting of prominent leaders from various political parties on July 20, where they would put forth their issues.

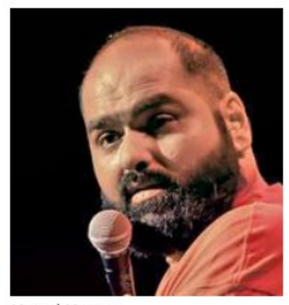
The Business Advisory Committee (BAC) would meet on the first day of the session, where the business of the House would be decided, Mr. Meghwal said.

Denying the Opposition's charge that the BJP-led Centre was trying to alter the basic structure of the Constitution, Mr. Meghwal said that in the 11 years it had been in power, the Modi government never tried to disturb the basic structure of the Constitution. "When the Congress was in power, during the Emergency, it had changed the entire Constitution. What was the 42nd Amendment? It is the Congress that has worked to tinker with the Constitution," he said.

Responding to a question on the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code across the country, he said Goa was the first State to implement a UCC, followed by Uttarakhand, and added that other States were also making efforts in this direction. "The matter is pending before the Law Commission of India. We will talk about it once the Commission's report comes," he said.

Panel gets more time to submit its report on Kamra, Andhare

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI


Kunal Kamra

The Maharashtra Legislative Council on Friday approved a motion granting the Privileges Committee additional time – until the end of the State legislature's next session – to submit its report on stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra and Shiv Sena (UBT) spokesperson Sushma Andhare over remarks allegedly targeting Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The motion was moved by BJP MLC Prasad Lad, who also chairs the Privileges Committee. The case arises from a breach of privilege notice moved by BJP MLC Pravin Darekar during the Budget session, in which Mr. Kamra was accused of insulting Mr. Shinde during a parody performance. The act allegedly used the word '*gaddar*' or 'traitor' in reference to Mr. Shinde's 2022 defection from the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena and was deemed offensive by the complainant.

Ms. Andhare had allegedly expressed support for the performance, which was construed as contempt of the legislature.

The show in question was performed and recorded at the Habitat Comedy Club in Mumbai's Khar area and was later uploaded online on March 23, under the title *Naya Bharat* (New India).

Following the release of the video, members of the Shiv Sena, allegedly vandalised the venue in protest.

Subsequently, show-cause notices were issued to both Mr. Kamra and Ms. Andhare by the Legislative Council Secretariat. However, the notices could not be delivered due to incomplete address details. Legislative Council Chairman Ram Shinde had referred the breach notice to the Privileges Committee in June for further inquiry.

ED's chargesheet against Vadra is part of witch-hunt by government, says Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Robert Vadra

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, said on Friday that his brother-in-law Robert Vadra was being hounded by the Narendra Modi government over the past decade, and asserted that the "truth shall prevail".

His comments came a day after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) filed a chargesheet against Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's husband, businessman Mr. Robert Vadra, in connection with a money laundering case related to a 3.53-acre land deal in Shikohpur village in Gurugram, Haryana, in 2008.

In a post on X, Mr. Gandhi said, "My brother-in-law has been hounded by this government for the last ten years. This latest chargesheet is a continuation of that witch hunt."

Extending full support to Mr. Vadra, Mr. Gandhi wrote, "I stand with Robert, Priyanka and their children as they face yet another onslaught of malicious, politically motivated slander and harassment."

He also commended their courage in facing the alleged persecution. "I know that they are all brave enough to withstand any kind of persecution and they will continue to do so with dignity. The truth will eventually prevail," Mr. Gandhi added.

Other party leaders also echoed Mr. Gandhi's stance. In a statement, Congress general secretary (Organisation) K.C. Venugopal alleged that there is a direct correlation between the upcoming Assembly polls and action taken by central agencies. He said the case against Mr. Vadra is an old one, with no new developments, and alleged that the chargesheet was timed to synchronise with the election schedule.

"This is not the first time the BJP has weaponised agencies to harass political opponents and this won't be the last," Mr. Venugopal added.

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said more than a decade has passed, with "repeated failed attempts to tarnish the family's image, yet no conspiracy was proven."

"This clearly exposes the malicious intent of the Modi government," Mr. Gehlot said in a post on X.

Cong. has Emergency mindset, no care for judicial process: BJP

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) slammed Rahul Gandhi on Friday for accusing the government of launching a witch-hunt against his brother-in-law Robert Vadra, saying the Congress leader's remarks reflect that his party still believes in the "Emergency mindset" and does not care for the judicial process.

BJP national spokesperson Tuhin Sinha alleged that Mr. Gandhi, with his remarks, has made it clear that he was "fully aware" of his brother-in-law's "dark deeds" and "might also have been" involved in them.

In support of Assam CM

Mr. Sinha also slammed Mr. Gandhi for his recent remarks against Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, accusing him of "threatening" an incumbent Chief Minister of getting him arrested.

"The kind of statement he gave in Robert Vadra's case and what he recently said about the Assam Chief Minister shows that the Congress has nothing to do with the judicial process or the process of investigation," Mr. Sinha said at a press conference at the BJP headquarters.

"The Congress still believes in the Emergency mindset and wants to do the same manipulation in the country which it was doing 50 years ago," he said, referring to the imposition of the Emergency by the Indira Gandhi government on June 25, 1975, which lasted for 21 months.

Mr. Sinha said Mr. Sarma is the elected Chief Minister of Assam and there is no allegation against him.

"Will you just pick up someone and put him in jail?" the BJP leader asked Mr. Gandhi.

Hearing on chargesheet against Vadra on July 24

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Rouse Avenue court in New Delhi on Friday took up the chargesheet filed against Robert Vadra, and listed it for verification of documents.

The matter was listed with Special Judge Sushant Changotra who ordered the record keeper to check the documents and give a report.

Special Public Prosecutor N.K. Matta, who appeared for the ED, sought a date at the earliest for the consideration of the complaint. The court listed the matter on July 24.

The case pertains to an FIR registered by the Gurugram Police in 2008, in which it was alleged that Mr. Vadra had fraudulently purchased 3.53 acres of land in Shikohpur, in a ₹7.5 crore deal. The police claimed that the purchase was made through a false declaration.

TRF was floated to deflect international sanctions against Pak.: security officials

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Lives lost: TRF has carried out many terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, including the Pahalgam attack on April 22 this year. ANI

The Resistance Front (TRF), now designated by the United States as a global terror outfit, is a proxy of Pakistan-based proscribed group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and the outfit was floated in the aftermath of the dilution of Article 370 to evade international sanctions against Pakistan, according to Indian security agencies.

The TRF has carried out terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir. Notable attacks include the Pahalgam attack on April 22, this year; the killing of nine Hindu pilgrims in Reasi on June 9, 2024; the murder of six migrant labourers and a doctor in Ganderbal on October 20, 2024, the killing of three Army and police personnel in Anantnag on September 13, 2023; and the murder of a BJP leader and two of his family members on July 8, 2020.

The Government of India designated the outfit as a terror organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in January 2023. Founded by Muhammad Abbas Sheikh (now deceased) in October 2019, it is currently headed by designated terrorist Sheikh Sajjad Gul.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has declared a reward of ₹10 lakh for him.

Digital platform

The current TRF chief was allegedly a part of the conspiracy to assassinate prominent Kashmiri journalist Shujaat Bukhari in 2018. "Gul was instrumental in launching TRF's digital media platform 'Kashmir Fight', through which threats were also issued to migrant Kashmiri Pandit employees," a security official said.

Via 'Kashmir Fight', TRF indulged in anti-India propaganda, campaigns for recruitment. It also claimed responsibility for attacks. Its website was registered on December 10, 2024, through an entity said to be based in Iceland. TRF has a presence on several digital platforms, including Mastodon, Chirpwire, and BiP.

"TRF usually focused on security forces and political figures, but late 2024 onward it started to target infrastructure projects and civilians, including non-locals, in Jammu & Kashmir," the official said.

Six Maoists killed in clash with security forces in Narayanpur

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Six Maoists were gunned down in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur district on Friday, the police said.

Inspector General of Police (Bastar Range) P. Sundarraj said that the gunfight happened in the forest of Abujhmad region when joint teams of security forces were out on an anti-Naxal operation in the area following inputs about the presence of cadres.

"Multiple exchanges of fire between the security forces and Maoists occurred since the afternoon. So far, the bodies of six Maoists have been recovered from the encounter site along with AK-47 rifles, self-loading rifles, other weapons, explosive materials and daily use items," said Mr. Sundarraj. The operation is still on.

Over 220 Naxalites have been killed in separate encounters in Chhattisgarh so far this year.

Of them, 204 were eliminated in the Bastar division, which has seven districts, including Narayanpur.

CM congratulates forces

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai hailed the security forces. "In the major operation of security forces against Naxalites in Abujhmad of Narayanpur, news of neutralisation of six Naxalites has been received so far. I congratulate all brave soldiers involved in the operation. I salute their indomitable courage," he said.

Bengali language, identity are paramount to BJP, says Modi

Prime Minister accuses the ruling Trinamool Congress of encouraging infiltration, which poses a threat not only to India but also to the culture of West Bengal; he targets State government over atrocities against women and lack of investments

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Emphasising that Bengali language and identity are paramount to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said infiltrators in the country would be dealt with as per law.

Mr. Modi's remarks at a public meeting at Durgapur come amid reports of targeting of migrants from West Bengal in BJP-ruled States. The Trinamool Congress leadership, including Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, have threatened protests over the issue, calling it an attack on Bengali language and identity

"For the BJP, Bengali *ashmita* (identity and pride) is paramount. Wherever there is a BJP government, Bengalis are respected, Bengali language is respected...We will not allow this conspiracy against Bengali *ashmita* to succeed. The BJP is the only party that truly respects it," the Prime Minister said.

Seeking support: Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets the gathering during a public meeting at Durgapur in West Bengal on Friday. PTI

He said it was the BJP government at the Centre which gave the status of classical language to Bengali. Accusing the Trinamool Congress of encouraging infiltration, he said an "ecosystem" of promoting infiltration was being encouraged by the State's ruling party, which posed a threat not only to India but also to the culture of West Bengal. "I want to make it clear from Durgapur, whoever is not a citizen of India and has infiltrated into the country will be dealt with as per law according to the Constitution of India," Mr. Modi said.

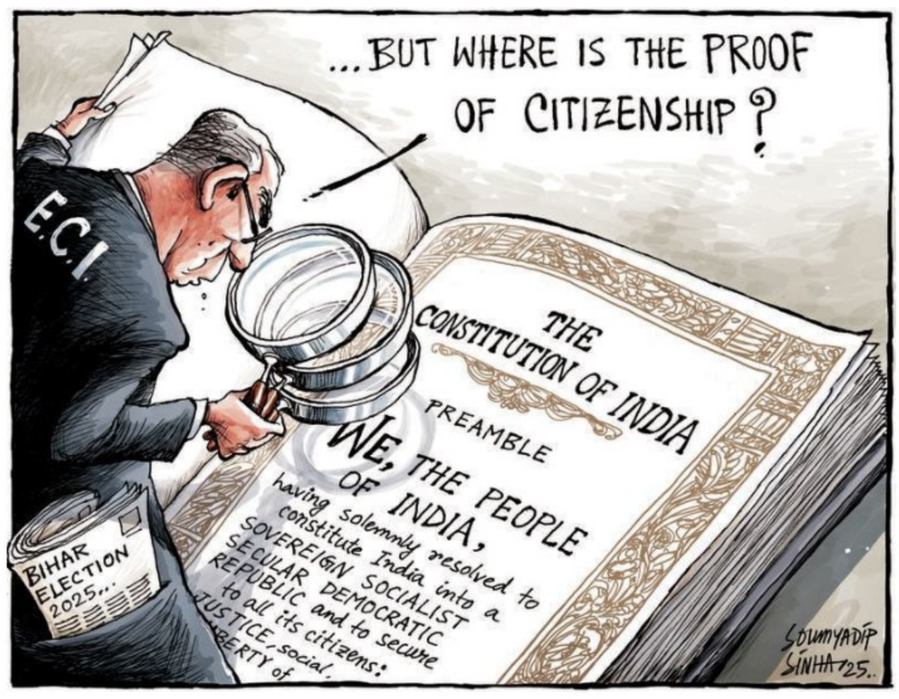
Targeting the Trinamool Congress government on several counts – from lack of investments to atrocities against women and the school recruitment scam – Mr. Modi said things would change only if the BJP is voted to power in the State. West Bengal will go to the polls in 2026.

"The youth of West Bengal are forced to migrate. Even for menial work, they have to go to different States. Earlier, Durgapur, Bardhaman, and Asansol were fuelling the industrial growth, but today the industries which are remaining are also getting closed," he said.

He claimed that "syndicates" and "goonda tax" were deterring investment in West Bengal. "Over the past decades, the situation in this region has become increasingly unfavourable for investment and employment. Frequent incidents of violence, biased policing, and a lack of faith in the justice system create an environment where no one feels confident about investing," he said.

During the day, Mr. Modi inaugurated and dedicated to the nation development projects worth over ₹5,400 crore, which included City Gas Distribution projects in Bankura and Purulia districts.

On the draw


...BUT WHERE IS THE PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP?
E.C.I
THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA
PREAMBLE
WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA,
having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens:
JUSTICE social,
BIHAR ELECTION 2025...
SOUMYADIP SINHA '25

'94.68% of Bihar voters covered'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) said on Friday that 94.68% of voters in Bihar have been covered under the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

Out of 78,969,844 electors, forms have been received from 90.12% of voters.

A total of 4.67% have not been found at their addresses, 1.61% are probably deceased, 0.75% are enrolled at multiple places, 2.3% have probably permanently shifted, and 0.01% are not traceable, the poll body said in a statement.

With just seven days left for the collection of forms, the EC has begun sharing the list of forms that could not be collected with political parties.

The last date for submission of enumeration forms in the SIR is July 25, and the draft rolls will be published on August 1.

PM unveils ₹7,200-crore projects in Bihar, calls for NDA's return to power

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Bihar for the fifth time this election year on Friday and, while addressing a public meeting at Gandhi Maidan in Motihari, East Champaran district, listed several welfare steps taken by both the Union and State governments for the development of the State, particularly for the poor. Mr. Modi said that the voters of Bihar must bring the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) back to power in the State.

On the occasion, Mr. Modi unveiled projects worth over ₹7,200 crore and flagged off four Amrit Bharat Express trains.

"In Bihar, connectivity will be much better now. The team of [Chief Minister] Nitish*ji* and BJP has made great efforts, and now we have to make this pledge – build a new Bihar, bring NDA back to power," Mr. Modi said.

People cheer for Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a public meeting in Motihari on Friday. ANI

He highlighted initiatives by both governments "for the development of Bihar" and for the welfare of the poor. "Priority to every backward individual is our commitment," he said.

He announced that under a new scheme, 100 poor districts would be identified for empowering farmers, adding that many of these districts would include those from Bihar. "Under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, ₹3.6 lakh crore has been given to farmers, and among them, lakhs are from Bihar. We do work to show," he said. "In today's Bihar, benefits of poor welfare schemes are directly reaching the needy," he added.

He also referred to Operation Sindoor against terrorist organisations in Pakistan. "I had taken the pledge of Operation Sindoor from the land of Bihar, and today the whole world is witnessing its success," he said.

Targeting the previous Rashtriya Janata Dal-Congress regimes, he said, "RJD cannot give you employment, they are the ones who grabbed your land in their name," in an apparent reference to RJD chief Lalu Prasad and his family's alleged involvement in the land-for-job scam.

Referring to his government's commitment to tackling Maoist insurgency, he said, "Maoism is taking its last breath in those areas of Bihar where it was once active. The youth in these areas now have new dreams."

INDIA bloc had 'limited success' due to ideological inconsistency, says CPI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Fundamental lack of ideological coherence in the INDIA bloc, with many parties operating autonomously or in competition with each other, undermined the collective strength that it could have provided, and thus it had limited success, the Communist Party of India's draft political resolution, released ahead of its congress scheduled for September 21-25, said.

The 64-page draft political resolution was released at the party's headquarters in Delhi by general secretary D. Raja on Friday.

D. Raja

The party also underlined Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's decision to contest from the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat in Kerala against a CPI candidate as an avoidable stumbling block for deeper Opposition unity. The resolution said the CPI played a significant role in bridging the ideological and political divide in the INDIA bloc. But the alliance was limited in its effectiveness.

"Seat-sharing negotiations were the most visible and a persistent point of contention. Many constituent parties, protective of their regional bases and leadership ambitions, engaged in prolonged and sometimes acrimonious bargaining," the resolution said. This did not lend to a seamless and cohesive campaign.

"Perhaps most critically, the alliance grappled with a fundamental lack of ideological coherence," the resolution said. The ideological inconsistency, the party said, made it challenging to present a unified policy agenda that could inspire widespread confidence beyond anti-BJP sentiment.

The CPI has suggested that the Opposition, especially the Congress, should learn lessons from this example. "The Indian National Congress should maintain consistency in its positions on critical issues like secularism, federalism, and the direction of our economy. Ideological clarity in the current situation is a must," it said.

Land-for-jobs scam: court refuses to stay Lalu's trial

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to intervene in an interim order of the Delhi High Court declining to stay a corruption trial against former Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad in a land-for-jobs scam case.

However, a Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and N. Kotiswar Singh asked the Delhi High Court to expedite the hearing in the main petition filed by Mr. Prasad to quash the criminal case registered against him by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Mr. Prasad, said the case is related to Group D appointments made in the West Central Zone of the Indian Railways based in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, during Mr. Prasad's tenure as the Railway Minister between 2004 and 2009, allegedly in return for land parcels gifted or transferred by the recruits in the name of his family or associates.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CENTRAL RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR

No.3341 / Date:16.07.2025 **Corrigendum**

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No.Tender-Online-C.C.14 of 2025 Dated 25.06.2025 invited vide this office Lr. No.3060 dated 25.06.2025

The date of availability of tender, date of opening of Technical Bid & Financial Bid invited vide this office N.I.T. No.Tender-Online-C.C.-10 of 2025 Dt-28.04.2025 issued vide this office Lr.No.2153 Dt-28.04.2025 is here by rescheduled as below due to some unavoidable circumstances.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding Up to	Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
Chief Construction Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar	Tender-Online-C.C.-14 of 2025	07.08.2025 up to 05.00 P.M.	08.08.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	To be intimated later on

All other conditions remain unaltered.

Chief Construction Engineer,
Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar.

O-450: OIPR-25082/11/0003/2526

Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
(Established by the Govt. of NCT Delhi)

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

No. AUD/(55)-1(20)/Rect./2025/ **Dated: 08.07.2025**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, a Delhi Government State University, is one of the few Universities in India with the core objective of promoting the study of humanities and social sciences and it recognises these disciplines as pivotal to the understanding and imagination of a society in transition. University's aim is to reconceptualise social sciences with innovative curricular and pedagogic processes.

The University invites online applications from the prospective & eligible candidates for the following posts as mentioned:

S. No.	Name of Post	Pay Level	Number of Vacancies
1.	Deputy Registrar	L-12	01 (On deputation)
2.	Assistant Registrar	L-10	03 (On deputation)
3.	Internal Audit Officer	L-12	01 (On deputation/ contract)

Please visit University website www.aud.delhi.gov.in for Qualifications, General Instructions, Eligibility Criteria, application form & other details.

Commencement of online application from: 08.07.2025.

Last date to apply online is 21 days from the publication of this advertisement in the "Employment News".

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0138/25-26 **REGISTRAR**

DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION, GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI

State Project Management Unit, Department of Rural Development, Government of Uttarakhand (SPMURD), Uttarahaat, Sahastradhara Road, Near IT Park, Dehradun – 248001
Contact Details: 0135-6633451, Email ID: ddugky.ukrd@gmail.com

Letter No.:115/n-36/DDU-GKY-2/SPMURD/2025 **Date: 18-07-2025**

Corrigendum – 2 on Expression of Interest (EoI) for DDU-GKY 2.0

This is with reference to EoI No. SPMU-N36/1/2025-SPMURD-DEPT SPMU-RD I/172109/2025 dated 08th May 2025 Corrigendum – 1 ref. no. I/179849/2025 dated 03rd June 2025 released by SPMU-RD regarding Expression of Interest (EoI) for inviting online applications from Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana 2.0 (DDU-GKY 2.0) to provide training and placement activities for the rural poor youth of Uttarakhand in emerging sectors with the closing date for submission of EoI as 15th July 2025.

The closing date for the submission of an online application against the aforementioned EoI is hereby extended till 15th Aug 2025. For more information, interested applicant PIAs having Permanent Registration Number (PRN) are requested to review the notice for extension of Expression of Interest (EoI) available on the portal at https://kaushal.rural.gov.in/.

All other terms & conditions of the EoI will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Anuradha Pal, IAS
Project Director
DDU-GKY, SPMU-RD
Govt. of Uttarakhand

Kerala Maritime Board
(A Statutory Board of Govt. Of Kerala)

Tender Notice

KMB invites tenders for

Development of Lakefront Leisure and Entertainment Hub, Asramam, Kollam, Kerala

In Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

E-Tender Number:04/2025-26/HOKMB-TVM/1717/2024-C1(Devp)

Last date of submission:
25/08/2025, 06:55 PM

For more details visit:
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.

For further information:
0471-2910040 | 9544410029
kmb.kerala@gmail.com.

D3/542/2025

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Bangalore - 560012

IISc/CCMD/Tenders/2025-26/ **Date: 17.07.2025**

Tender Notification- IISc/ Tender-AMC-1/2025-26

Indian Institute of Science invites bids in two cover system through e-procurement platform **https://eprocure.gov.in.** Any specialized firms company registered under KPWD/ CPWD/ railways/ MES/ Central PSUs/ or any Government department of Class I/ Class A Civil Contractors are eligible to apply for the work of **"Annual Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply and distribution system 2025- 2026 at IISc Bangalore".** Estimated Cost of Project is **Rs.1,39,25,679/-.** Last date of receipt of application is **06th Aug 2025** at **15:30Hrs**. Any other details can be obtained from the office of the Centre for Campus Management & Development, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on all working days or e-mail **office.ccmd@iisc.ac.in**

Sd/-, Registrar

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER AND PROJECT MANAGER
Watershed Cell cum Data Centre Jaisalmer
(CAD Colony Mayzlar Road, Jaisalmer 345001)

S. No. F()/WDSC/MJSA 2.0/Bids/2025-26/1200 **Date: 09/07/2025**

NOTICE INVITING BID
NIB No.-08/2025-26

NIB Code-WSC2526A0449

Bids for the execution of "Construction of various watershed development structures under MJSA 2.0 Projects of estimated value as mentioned below are invited from interested bidders up to 28.07.2025, 12.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state, and www.watershed.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.

Bid No.	Block	Estimated Cost, Rs. In lakhs	UBN No.
15	BHANIYANA	168.67	WSC2526WSOB00746
16	FATEHGARH	130.35	WSC2526WSOB00747
17	FATEHGARH	209.95	WSC2526WSOB00748
18	NACHANA	251.25	WSC2526WSOB00749
19	SAM	262.39	WSC2526WSOB00750

Superintending Engineer and Project Manager
Watershed Cell curm Data Centre Jaisalmer

DIPR/C/9752/2025

BIKANER TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
Karni Industrial Area, Pugal Road, Bikaner-334004

Adv. No. :- BTU/CAM/25-26/Adv./12 **Date :- 18/07/2025**

CAM 2025

Centralized Admission for M. Tech. and M. Arch. Session 2025-26

Online applications are invited for admission to M.Tech. and M.Arch. programs offered by various constituent and affiliated colleges of Bikaner Technical University, Bikaner and Rajasthan Technical University, Kota for the academic session 2025-26.

Information brochure, tentative schedule, details of offered specialization, seat matrix of M.Tech./M.Arch., and other relevant information are provided on https://btu.ac.in and CAM 2025 Web portal (https://btucam2025.com). Fellowship is subject to terms and conditions and approval by AICTE. All the updates or changes will be provided on the CAM 2025 web-portal only. Candidates are advised to visit the web portal of CAM 2025 regularly as all communication will be made available through web portal only.

Last date of Application Fee Deposit : 11 August 2025
Last date of Application submission : 12 August 2025

Raj.Samwad/C/25/6476 **Coordinator, CAM 2025**

INBRIEF

Hoax bomb threats at over 45 Delhi schools spark panic

More than 45 schools and three colleges in Delhi received bomb threats via emails on Friday, triggering panic among the students and their parents. The threats, however, later turned out to be hoaxes. This was the fourth day this week that schools and colleges in the national capital were targets of bomb threats. Police, along with bomb disposal and dog squads, and the fire department, rushed to the schools and colleges. They evacuated the premises and conducted thorough searches. Former Delhi CM Atishi has slammed the BJP government over the matter. Cyber sleuths have started tracking the origin of these threats, a police official said. PTI

Islampur to be renamed as Ishwarpur: Maharashtra govt.

The Maharashtra government on Friday declared that the town of Islampur in Sangli district will be renamed to Ishwarpur, marking another step in its ongoing push to rechristen locations across the State. The announcement was made in the Legislative Assembly by Food and Civil Supplies Minister Chhagan Bhujbal, who confirmed that the proposal had received Cabinet approval and would now be forwarded to the Union government for final clearance.

Nine get life imprisonment for 'digital arrest' fraud

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

A West Bengal court sentenced nine people to life imprisonment on Friday for their involvement in a "digital arrest" scam. This is among the first such convictions in India and the first in West Bengal.

The 70-year-old victim lost ₹1 crore and was under "digital arrest" for almost seven days. According to the victim, he was asked to deposit money into various accounts by a WhatsApp caller, who identified themself as sub-inspector Hemraj Koli of the Andheri police station in Mumbai.

The police found out that the calls, though originating from India, were being rerouted through Cambodia and the money was siphoned through multiple accounts whose owners were spread across the country.

Of the 13 people arrested from Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Haryana, nine were convicted.

Multiple bank passbooks, ATM cards, SIM cards, and mobile phones were seized from the accused.

NGT tells Karnataka to act on Dakshina Pinakini pollution

Tamil Nadu officials had reported heavy pollution of the river as it enters the State, citing frothing, hyacinth growth and contamination of irrigation tanks near the Kelavarapalli dam in Hosur

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed the Karnataka government to submit an action plan within a month to control the discharge of untreated sewage and industrial effluents into Thenpennai river (known in Dakshina Pinakini in Karnatka), pending the completion of new sewage treatment plants (STPs) scheduled for the end of December.

The directive came during a hearing on July 15, based on a *suo motu* case initiated by the Bench based on news reports. The Bench expressed serious concern over the river's condition, particularly in the stretch flowing from Karnataka into Tamil Nadu, where foaming, blackened water, and foul odour have been reported.

In its order, the Bench, comprising Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana and expert member Satyagopal Korlapati, noted that untreated domestic sewage and industrial waste from Bengaluru, especially from Bellandur and Varathur lakes, is being discharged into the river, causing significant pollution downstream in Tamil Nadu.

Toxic mix: Foamy water from Kelavarapalli reservoir choking farmlands along Thenpennai river. FILE PHOTO

Industries

Karnataka's report revealed that 531 industries are located in the river's catchment area.

Of these, 11 were found to be non-compliant with environmental rules. While work on 10 new STPs with a capacity of 313 MLD is under way, only four have received administrative approval, and none are operational yet.

Tamil Nadu officials reported heavy pollution of the Thenpennai as it enters the State.

Frothing, hyacinth growth and contamination of irrigation tanks near the Kelavarapalli dam in Hosur were cited.

Tamil Nadu has urged the Karnataka government to prevent untreated waste from entering the river and improve pollution monitoring.

A central Negotiation Committee, formed to address inter-state water disputes, inspected polluted sites in June 2024 and confirmed the presence of black, foamy water and a strong odour. The team also found that untreated sewage from residential areas was polluting tanks and lakes around Bengaluru.

The Bench stressed the urgency of interim pollution control measures, especially with the monsoon approaching in Tamil Nadu, and warned that waiting until STPs are completed would worsen the situation.

Karnataka's legal counsel sought a month's time to respond.

The Bench has scheduled the next hearing for August 21, 2025, and instructed Karnataka to file a report outlining short-term measures.

India cautions against double standards on Russian oil

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India does not subscribe to any unilateral sanction measures, the External Affairs Ministry said in response to the European Union announcing fresh punitive measures on Russia, especially on its energy trade.

The European Union has announced a new package of sanctions aimed at Russia over its war against Ukraine. It also named Gujarat-based Nayara Energy's Vadinar Refinery in which Russian energy firm Rosneft has a major stake.

"We have noted the latest sanctions announced by the European Union," Ministry spokeperson Randhir Jaiswal said. He said India is a "responsible" actor and remain fully committed to its legal obligations.

"India considers the provision of energy security a responsibility of paramount importance to meet the basic needs of its citizens. We would stress that there should be no double standards, especially when it comes to energy trade."

Nistar, first indigenous diving support vessel, commissioned into Navy

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

The Indian Navy on Friday commissioned *INS Nistar*, the first indigenously designed and constructed diving support vessel, in the presence of Union Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth in Visakhapatnam.

The 118-metre ship, which is the first of two diving support vessels being built by Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., is designed to undertake complex deep sea saturation diving and rescue operations – a capability select navies possess across the globe.

Mr. Seth said the commissioning of *INS Nistar* firmly reinforces the role of the Indian Navy as the "first responder" and "preferred security partner" in the region. Supporting the indigenous shipbuilding industry has been one of the pillars of the government's "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" campaign. At present, all of the 57 new warships in the pipeline are being constructed indigenously.

Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth during the commissioning of INS Nistar on Friday in Visakhapatnam. V. RAJU

Critical support

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi termed *INS Nistar* as not just a technological asset, but a crucial operational enabler. "*Nistar* will provide critical submarine rescue support to the Indian Navy as well as our regional partners," he said.

INS Nistar is installed with state-of-the-art diving equipment such as remotely operated vehicles, self-propelled hyperbaric life boat, diving compression chambers. It can undertake diving and salvage operations up to 300 metres depth. It would also serve as the "Mother Ship" for deep submergence rescue vessel to rescue and evacuate personnel, from a dived submarine in distress well below the surface.

Webinar on GERD, a lifestyle disorder, to be held on Sunday

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore, in association with *The Hindu*, will present a webinar on "GERD-Free Living: From Burn to Balance" at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday. This is a part of the "Healthy India, Happy India" webinar series – a 15-part initiative on the theme of "Prevent Illness, Promote Wellness".

Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is an increasingly common lifestyle disorder that affects individuals across all age groups. This 15th session in the series aims to raise awareness about GERD by addressing its early symptoms, methods of accurate diagnosis, and available treatment options.

E. Rabindranath, consultant gastroenterologist, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore will speak on "Diagnosis, Lifestyle Changes and Managing GERD", while Jacob Raja A. S, consultant gastroenterologist, consultant in infectious diseases, Naruvi Hospitals, Vellore will speak on "Introduction and Symptomatology of GERD". A. C. Arun, clinical lead, gastroenterology, Lily Mission Hospital, Madurai, will elaborate on the "Treatment of Refractory GERD". Soma Basu, Senior Deputy Editor, *The Hindu* will moderate the session.

naruvi
HEALTHY INDIA HAPPY INDIA
HEALTHIER CHOICES, HAPPIER LIVES.
JOIN US FOR A WEBINAR ON
GERD- FREE LIVING: FROM BURN TO BALANCE
THE HINDU

E-certificates will be issued to all those who register for the webinar. To register, visit https://newsth.live/HIHIUIE or scan the QR code.

Three elephants, including calf, run over by train in Bengal; probe ordered

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

Three elephants, including a female and its calf, were run over by an express train between the Jhargram and Banstala stations in southern West Bengal in the early hours of Friday. A semi-adult elephant was also killed.

Jhargram Divisional Forest Officer Umar Imam said the Forest Department had issued a notification to railway officials regarding elephant movement near the tracks at 10.56 p.m. on Thursday. The accident occurred around 1.45 a.m., less than three hours later.

"This is a usual elephant route, the movement of a group of 25-30 elephants was verified near the area of the accident. We have a common group with railway and forest officials. I had asked them to keep speed in check in the area. Generally, they get alerted within minutes, but why did they not see this alert for three hours and caused this fatal accident?" Mr. Imam told *The Hindu*.

Tragic scene: Carcass of an elephant lies on the railway track in Jhargram in West Bengal on Friday. PTI

"I have asked for all data about train speed and number of train movements on these tracks during the time of the accident. We have also asked for the medical reports of loco pilots," he added.

Soma Das, an official from the South Eastern Railway, said the elephants were hit by the Barbil-Howrah Janshatabdi Express (Train no. 12022).

Nishant Kumar, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager of the Kharagpur Division, said, "We have called for an inquiry about the speed, notification. We need to verify what the Forest Department is saying, we cannot offer further information before the investigation is over."

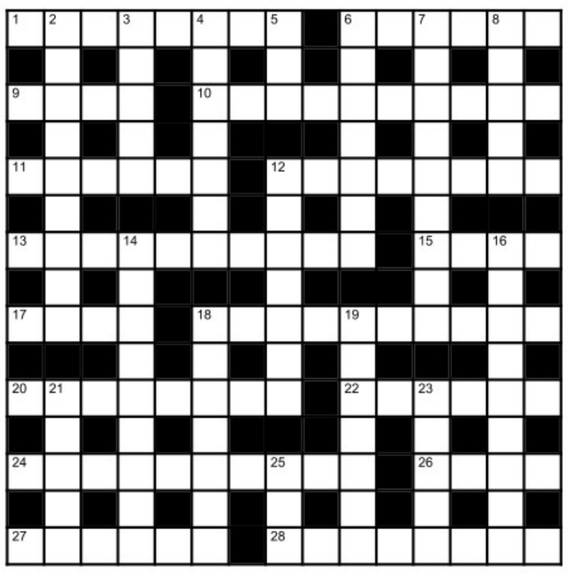
As per 2023 government data, there are 26 identified elephant corridors in the State.

TH CROSSWORD + 14541

(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Had two mixed drinks around midnight, inspector (8)
6 Is she an MBA? An oddly lost communicator! (6)
9 Examine recycled tins (4)
10 Scrambled 0, ct. Litton — a bunny! (10)
11 Want and mean to lose a pound (6)
12 Massage hair with eggs for having more hair (8)
13 Some riot repercussions not fully reflected in list (10)
15 A pot that's cracked open (4)
17 Case initially expected to uncover intrigue (4)
18 Church posts marketing return on investment, backing mail campaigns, finally (10)
20 Patrons knocked good melody (4-4)
22 Shout uninhibitedly, scare men (6)
24 Base is large house in old country (10)
26 Loud appeal — one might be caught (4)
27 Unusually shy cop is a dangerous person (6)
28 Incomplete skull sets grotesquely missing teeth (8)

Down

2 Founder cold and tense after demo fails to start, site doesn't open (9)
3 Preserve extremely obscure craft (5)
4 Break and ultimately rat under slight pressure (7)
5 Understand common factors in great longevity? (3)
6 Time following second golden era for space (7)
7 Signature of a fantastic author (P. G. _____) (9)
8 Lit "teetotaller" evicted by female in uniform (5)
12 Special Indian spice packs — hot and splendid (7)
14 Like a letter from police, it's unsettling (9)
16 Looks around both sides of senate, for those willing to compromise (9)
18 Rider with short demonstration including six jumps at the end (7)
19 Fights lies, is arrested (7)
21 In the morning, is a bit of supper inappropriate? (5)
23 Resist quietly breaking wind (5)
25 Juvenile getting naked in public (3)

SUDOKU

			8	7				
		9			6	1		
	4					6		5
2					8	9	1	
9		8	6		3	4		2
	3	1	9					7
6		2					9	
		4	1			7		
				6	4			

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

P	I	C	T	U	R	E	■	F
■	C	■	A	■	I	■	P	■
P	E	E	R	■	C	A	R	T
■	D	■	O	■	K	■	I	■
S	T	A	T	U	E	■	N	O
■	E	■	■	■	T	■	C	■
B	A	R	R	I	S	T	E	R
■	■	■	O	■	■	■	O	■
T	E	A	C	H	■	A	F	T
■	X	■	K	■	A	■	W	■
C	A	M	B	O	D	I	A	■
■	M	■	O	■	H	■	L	■
S	P	R	U	C	E	B	E	E
■	L	■	N	■	R	■	S	■
H	E	A	D	S	E	T	■	K

A	T	H	O	M	S	■	■	■
■	U	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
O	N	I	S	T	■	■	■	■
■	I	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
N	E	S	U	C	H	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
L	A	D	L	E	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	N	■	■	■	■	■
E	R	D	E	C	K	■	■	■
■	■	■	H	■	■	■	■	■
F	L	A	W	E	D	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
R	O	O	K	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
K	E	Y	N	O	T	E	■	■

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	1	6	4	8	3	2	9	5
3	2	5	9	1	6	4	7	8
9	4	8	2	7	5	6	3	1
8	9	4	6	2	7	5	1	3
6	5	7	1	3	8	9	2	4
1	3	2	5	9	4	7	8	6
5	8	1	7	4	2	3	6	9
2	6	3	8	5	9	1	4	7
4	7	9	3	6	1	8	5	2

FAITH

Ever youthful Goddess

Abirami Bhattar's Abirami Andadi shows how he visualised Devi in different forms. The Goddess assumes several forms, each with its own symbolism and foundation in sacred literature. Bhattar's verses are expressions of his devotion, and every word of praise in Abirami Andadi must be studied with cross references, said M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse. If we were to read Abirami Andadi superficially, we will fail to grasp all the deeper meanings, and will not understand the significance of Bhattar's words. Abirami Bhattar begins verse 21 with the word 'mangalai.' This is to indicate that the Goddess is the embodiment of all things auspicious. The Goddess is known as Mangalambigai in the Kumbeshwara temple in Kumbakonam. She is the Consort of Lord Siva, the One who never ages, the One who never has an end. So, naturally, She too is One who never ages, and One who is present forever. Despite being responsible for the appearance of everything in the world, She is a Mother who remains ever youthful.

Although She is the Universal Mother, She grew up as the beloved daughter of Parvatharaja. That is why She is known as Parvathi. Abirami Bhattar uses the word 'Malayaal,' to praise Her. Malai means hill. She is Malayaal because She is the daughter of Parvatharaja, the King of the Himalayas. After She destroyed the demon Pandasura, the devas wanted to establish places suitable for worshipping Lalithambika and Kameswara. So, they summoned Viswakarma and Mayan, who established 16 cities for Her. Of the 16 Srinagars, seven were in the sea and nine were on hills. So this could be another reason for the name Malayaal.

INBRIEF

Reliance Retail acquires Kelvinator for almost ₹160 cr.

Reliance Retail on Friday announced the acquisition of consumer durables brand Kelvinator from the Electrolux Group, which pegged the transaction value at SEK 180 million (almost ₹160 crore), as the country's largest retailer seeks to accelerate growth in the rapidly expanding premium home appliances market across India. Reliance Retail had earlier used the Kelvinator brand under licence from Electrolux Home Products Inc. PTI

Tax department enables online utility for ITR-2 filing

Individuals and HUFs having taxable capital gains income can now start filing income tax returns ITR-2 for financial year 2024-25. "Income Tax Return Form of ITR-2 is now enabled for filing through online mode with pre-filled data at the e-filing portal," the I-T department said in a post on X. ITR-2 is filed by individuals and Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs) who have income from capital gains, but do not have earnings from business or profession. PTI

IPO of Workplace solutions firm IndiQube to raise ₹700 cr.

IndiQube Spaces, a Bengaluru-based workplace solutions firm, has fixed a price band of ₹225 to ₹237 per share for its ₹700-crore initial public offering. The company is raising ₹650 crore through the issuance of fresh issue while promoters, Rishi Das and Meghna Agarwal, would offload shares worth ₹50 crore under offer for sale (OFS).

Platform fee an 'industry standard,' 'inevitable' outcome

As e-com/q-com firms eye turning profitable, platform fee has turned from a small experiment on Swiggy to something even Amazon charges

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Growing revenue stream: Zomato said a report for 2023–24 fiscal, the item earned ₹83 crore that year. PTI

What started off as a small experiment – a ₹2 "platform fee" on Swiggy in 2023 – has now grown into an industry standard across e-com and quick com platforms alike. The fee is no longer ₹2 either: Swiggy now charges ₹10 as a platform fee. There is GST applicable on top of this: a user fumed on social media site Reddit two years ago: "There's now a GST on platform fee. A fee Zomato/Swiggy invented."

The fees are netting relatively modest sums. Zomato said in a report for 2023-24 fiscal, the item earned ₹83 crore that year.

But they may be setting the stage for something larger: platform fees are now being charged across all major food and grocery delivery platforms, such as BlinkIt, Swiggy, Zomato and Zepto. Even Amazon has started charging a ₹5 'marketplace fee,' something it doesn't appear to charge users in other countries. Spokespersons for Swiggy and Zepto did not respond to a request for comment. A Zomato spokesperson said, "This fee helps us keep the app running smoothly, invest in product improvements, and continue delivering a smooth and convenient experience for users. GST is applied as per government regulations and the restaurant's confirmation."

Amazon said in a blog post it wouldn't be applicable on bill payments and digital purchases.

Many revenue sources

Platforms generally have multiple sources of revenue in a single order: while food delivery players make money from restaurants by charging a commission of 15-25%, grocery delivery apps own the inventory they're selling, pocketing the margins of the products. But margins remain slim, Digvijay Ghosh, partner of consumer products and retail at EY-Parthenon told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Ghosh said it was 'inevitable' such fee would start being charged by platforms. "Obviously all the platforms are looking to have a focus on profitability and build on that.

The fee are a "growing concern from a consumer point of view," Amol Kulkarni, director of research at Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS), an advocacy group and a think tank, told *The Hindu*.

"If it is becoming an industry standard and all players are in tandem appearing to raise prices. There is a concern around anti-competitive practices and entities and platforms acting as a cartel to raise prices for consumers."

RIL Q1 net jumps 77% to ₹30,783 cr. on one-time gain

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) for the first quarter reported 76.5% growth in consolidated net profit to ₹30,783 crore aided by one-time gain of ₹8,924 crore via sale of investments in Asian Paints.

Excluding profit from sale of investments, EBITDA rose 15% and net profit 25% year-on-year backed by strong double-digit profit growth from Jio, retail and oil to chemicals (O2C) businesses of the firm.

RIL's consolidated gross revenue rose 6% to ₹273,252 crore.

"Reliance has begun FY26 with a robust, all-round operational and financial performance," said Mukesh D. Ambani, CMD.

"Consolidated EBITDA for 1QFY26 improved strongly from a year-ago period, despite significant volatility in global macros.

"During the quarter, energy markets encountered heightened uncertainty, with sharp fluctuations in crude prices. Our O2C business delivered strong growth, with thrust on domestic demand fulfillment and offering value-added solutions through Jio-bp network," he said.

Jio Platforms Ltd. reported 24.8% growth in net profit to ₹7,110 crore. Gross revenue at ₹41,054 crore grew 18.8% on strong subscriber growth, increased consumption and sustained positive momentum in digital services.

Jio Platforms net profit grew 25% to ₹7,110 crore.

Retail net rises 28%

Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd reported 28.3% growth in net profit to ₹3,271 crore. Revenue increased by 11.3% to ₹84,171 crore.

All segments performed well, with market-leading performance in grocery and fashion, RIL said.

O2C EBITDA rose 10.8% YoY on favourable margin on domestic fuel retail, improvements in transportation fuel cracks and PP, PVC delta. Revenue slid 1.5% due to fall in crude oil prices and lower volumes on account of planned shutdown. EBITDA slipped 4.1% on lower revenue and a jump in operating costs

RIL's finance costs increased by 18.9% to ₹7,036 crore. Capital expenditure was ₹29,875 crore.

Consolidated net debt at the end of the quarter was marginally up at ₹1,17,581 crore from ₹1,17,083 crore as on March 31, 2025.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,758	-0.61
US Dollar	86.16	-0.05
Gold	98,770	0.10
Brent oil	69.46	0.56

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2596.10	-20.50
Adani Ports	1443.10	-9.40
Apollo Hosp	7303.50	-47.00
Asian Paints	2382.40	-16.50
Axis Bank	1099.30	-60.50
Bajaj Auto	8347.50	17.50
Bajaj Finserv	2029.60	3.10
Bajaj Finance	942.00	18.70
Bharat Elec	394.75	-9.45
Bharti Airtel	1901.00	-28.90
Cipla	1482.30	-0.10
Coal India	388.50	2.60
Dr Reddys Lab	1257.50	-5.60
Eicher Motors	5627.50	-22.50
Eternal Ltd.	257.20	-2.45
Grasim Ind	2728.50	-37.80
HCL Tech	1548.80	4.90
HDFC Bank	1957.40	-29.50
HDFC Life	739.50	-12.30
Hero MotoCorp	4396.70	-46.90
Hindalco	675.90	1.35
Hind Unilever	2489.60	-20.20
ICICI Bank	1425.80	7.10
IndusInd Bank	870.05	4.95
Infosys	1586.10	2.60
ITC	422.75	-1.20
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	316.85	-1.30
JSW Steel	1034.40	0.20
Kotak Bank	2140.50	-30.30
L&T	3464.80	-9.20
M&M	3192.40	-2.60
Maruti Suzuki	12419.00	-57.00
NestleIndia	2472.20	23.10
NTPC	342.10	-0.55
ONGC	246.31	2.44
PowerGrid Corp	294.15	-2.45
Reliance Ind	1476.00	-0.40
SBI Life	1788.40	-14.40
State Bank	823.35	-5.65
Shriram Finance Ltd.	645.50	-19.95
Sun Pharma	1693.60	-9.80
TataConsumerProduct	1095.90	-9.90
Tata Motors	680.25	-1.45
Tata Steel	162.37	2.47
TCS	3189.90	-19.30
Tech Mahindra	1548.90	-14.80
Titan	3402.90	-30.40
Trent Ltd.	5375.00	-42.50
UltraTech Cement	12498.00	3.00
Wipro	266.95	6.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 18

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	85.95	86.27
Euro	100.09	100.46
British Pound	115.62	116.06
Japanese Yen (100)	57.86	58.08
Chinese Yuan	11.97	12.02
Swiss Franc	107.27	107.67
Singapore Dollar	66.97	67.23
Canadian Dollar	62.63	62.89
Malaysian Ringitt	20.24	20.34
Australian Dollar	56.06	56.27

Source:Indian Bank

SEBI moves to curb high volatility in electricity futures

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Electricity is a high-volatile commodity, says Pandey.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) may impose higher additional margins for electricity futures in times of high volatility, said Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Chairperson of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) at the launch of Monthly Electricity Futures here on Friday.

"Electricity has been categorised as a high-volatile commodity, thereby attracting high initial margin requirements. This will discourage undue speculative activity. Additional margins may be imposed in times of heightened volatility," said Mr. Pandey said.

Electricity futures are future contracts with electricity as the underlying commodity. It was introduced to arrest volatility in electricity prices and intended for manufacturers, power generators and distributors to hedge losses at times of price spike.

The product was introduced after consultation with a joint working group with SEBI, NSE and Central Electricity Regulation Commission. The product will be of bi-monthly expiry with 95% of the market share with NSE and the rest with MCX.

NCLAT stays RInfra insolvency order

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. (RInfra) on Friday said the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), New Delhi stayed the insolvency order against the company.

On June 4, NCLAT had suspended the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Mumbai's insolvency order against RInfra after the company settled dues to its creditors.

On May 30, NCLT, Mumbai bench had admitted RInfra for insolvency resolution following a petition filed by IDBI Trusteeship Services Ltd., being the security trustee of Dhursar Solar Power.

The operational creditor had alleged a default of ₹88.68 crore as on August 28, 2018 as well as interest at 1.25% a month from 30 days of the date of receipt of each invoice until the payment date.

RInfra later fully paid ₹92.68 crore to Dhursar Solar Power against the claim of tariff as per the energy purchase agreement with the firm and moved an appeal before the NCLAT which will hear the matter further on August 27.

RAJASTHAN URJA VIKAS AND IT SERVICES LIMITED
(Formerly Known as Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd.)
(A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) - U40104RJ2015SGC048738
Regd. Office - Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur-302005
Work Office at: 1st Floor, HUDCO Building, Jyoti nagar, Jaipur- 302005
E-mail : ce.RUVNL@rajasthan.gov.in; Website: www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/RUVNL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online bids are invited to procure upto 1000 MW power from 01st December 2025 to 28th February 2026 on short term basis from various Generators/ State Utilities/ CPPs/ Distribution Licensees/ SEBs/ Trading Licensees as per specification under TN-30/RUVITL/FY 2025-26. May visit website **www.mstcecommerce.com/ www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/ruvks/#/home/dptHome** for further details.

RUVITL/PR-102 (2025)
Raj.Samwad/C/25/6427 Superintending Engineer (PP)
बिजली शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6507

कार्यालय श्री सांवलिया जी मंदिर मण्डल
मण्डफिया, जिला-चित्तौड़गढ़ (राज.)
क्रमांक/लेखा/श्रीसांमंम/2025-26/756 दिनांक-17.07.25

ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या –07/2025–26

श्री सांवलियाजी मंदिर मण्डल, मण्डफिया द्वारा **Work of General Repair, Maintenance & Addition Alteration at S.S.M.M.,Mandfiya** (अनु.राशि रुपये 300.00 लाख) कार्य हेतु सा.नि.वि.,राजस्थान एवं अन्य विभागों में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजिकृत एवं योग्य संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र, शर्तें एवं निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा www.sppp. rajasthan.gov.in पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध है। ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पोर्टल पर दिनांक 19/07/2025 को प्रातः 09:00 बजे से उपलब्ध होकर दिनांक 07/08/2025 सायं 06:00 बजे तक ऑन लाईन प्रस्तुत किये जा सकते है। जिनकी तकनीकी निविदाएं दिनांक 08/08/2025 को खोली जावेगी।

UBN. SMM2526WSOB00021

मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी
श्री साँवलिया जी मंदिर मण्डल

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Department of Agriculture

Memo No: 232-20/HQ Dated: 16.07.2025

NOTIFICATION

In pursuance of Clause VI(ii)(c)of the Guidelines of Farm Mechanization Schemes (FMS) 2025-26 vide Memo No: 574-AG-11030(11)/1/2024-NAB-SEC dated 07.07.2025, and as per decision of the meeting of the SPMT held on 16.07.2025 ,this is to inform that indicative price of new models of different farm machinery/implements which was not published under FMS during 2024-25 will be published for implementation of FMS - 2025-26 in West Bengal.

Hence, the **registered** Farm Machinery Manufacturers who have new models of different farm machinery/implements but have no indicative price of that models under FMS-2024-25 and the interested **manufacturers not yet registered** in the portal willing to take part in Farm Mechanization Schemes-2025-26 in West Bengal are invited to furnish their information as stated below in respect of different new models of the farm machinery/ implements through email id- **wbfm2024@gmail.com** to facilitate publication of indicative price of new models in addition to the available indicative price of different models of 2024-25 for implementation of FMS for the year 2025-26 in WB :

1. Information in respect of different new models of farm machinery/ implements which have no indicative price under FMS-2024-25 in an excel sheet in the prescribed format (Annexure-A).
2. GST Invoices as referred to in the format in a folder creating dealer wise sub-folder.
3. Valid testing certificate of the farm machinery /implements.

The notice including the format (Annexure-A) & Guidelines of FMS - 2025-26 is available in www.wbfms.wb.gov.in portal. For any query please contact with the Farm Mechanization Cell, Jessop Building, 1st Floor, 63 N S Road, Kolkata-700001, Phone: 033-22540917.

The information as detailed above along with necessary documents is to be sent to the mail id- wbfm2024@gmail.com only on & from 20.07.2025 to 30.07.2025. Registration of the manufacturers in the portal will be started after publication of indicative price.

ICA- N 336(6)/2025

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise & group company of IndianOil)
[CIN – L40101TN1965GOI005389]
Regd. Office: No.536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018
Website: www.cpcl.co.in, Email ID: shankarp@cpcl.co.in Phone No.: (044)24346807

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

Record Date Notice - Final Dividend for the Year 2024-25

Pursuant to Regulation 42 of SEBI LODR (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirement) Regulations, 2015, it is hereby informed that the company has fixed Friday, 01st August 2025 as the "Record Date" for the purpose of ascertaining the eligibility of members for payment of final dividend of Rs.5/- (Rupees Five only) per equity share on the face value of Rs.10/- each on the equity shares of the company for the F.Y 2024-25.

The final dividend, if approved by the members in the forthcoming AGM, will be paid to the eligible members within the stipulated period of 30 days from the date of AGM.

Members may note that the Income Tax Act, 1961, as amended by the Finance Act, 2020 mandates the dividends paid or distributed by a company is taxable in the hands of the members. The company shall therefore be required to deduct tax at source ("TDS") at the time of making the payment of dividend. In order to enable the company to determine the applicable TDS rate, members are required to submit the relevant documents on or before 13th August 2025. The detailed communication regarding TDS on dividend is provided on the link https://cpcl.co.in/investors/share-holder-information/investor-relations/.

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
Sd/-
Place : Chennai P. Shankar
Dated : 18th July, 2025 Company Secretary

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Executive Engineer Office, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited, Upper Bhadra Project, Division No.5, Chitradurga.
Phone No.:08194-230102 E-mail:eeubp.d5cta@gmail.com
No.EE/VJNL/UBP/DIV-05/CTA/DRIP Tender/2025-26/499
Date:16.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Only through KPP-Portal)

Tenders are invited through the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPP Portal) under the two-cover system, percentage tender by the undersigned on behalf of the Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd., Bengaluru, for the following three DRIP Irrigation works of the Upper Bhadra Project – Chitradurga Branch Canal under the Head of Account 4701, from eligible contractors.Contractors may download and submit the tender documents through the KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 16.07.2025 to 16.08.2025 up to 17:30 hrs.Details such as Amount Put to Tender, Bidder Qualification Criteria, Tender Conditions, Tender Processing Fee, etc., can be accessed on the KPP Portal.Queries/clarifications may be raised through the office of the undersigned or via the KPP Portal until 24.07.2025, 17:30 hrs. The Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on 28.07.2025 at 12:00 PM in the office of the Managing Director, VJNL, Bengaluru.The technical bids of the submitted tenders will be opened in the Division Office on 18.08.2025 from 11:00 AM onwards through the KPP Portal. The financial bids will be opened after approval of the technical bids.

Brief Name of work:- (1) Chitradurga Branch Canal DRIP Block-6 KPP Portal Indent Number:-VJNL/2025-26/IW/WORK_INDENT 273 Amount Put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs):-78114.55
(2) Chitradurga Branch Canal DRIP Block-7 KPP Portal Indent Number:-VJNL/2025-26/IW/WORK_INDENT275 Amount Put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs):-29341.38
(3) Chitradurga Branch Canal DRIP Block-8 KPP Portal Indent Number:-VJNL/2025-26/IW/WORK_INDENT276 Amount Put to tender (Rs. In Lakhs):-31872.32

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/221/2025-26 Sd/- Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP, Division No.5, Chitradurga.

RAJASTHAN SAMWAD
DIPR Campus, Government Secretariat, Jaipur-302005
(Telephone & Fax No. 0141- 2227325, E-mail id :-eproc.dipr@gmail.com, dipr.rajasthan@gmail.com)

NOTICE INVITING BIDS
NIB No. 55 Date : 18/07/2025

INVITATION OF BIDS FOR THE PROVIDING SERVICES FOR MAN POWER invited from interested bidders up to 03:00 PM 06/08/2025. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in & http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state; and **https://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in**. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2.5 Crore. **UBN : IPR2526SLRC00011** Managing Director
Raj.Samwad/C/25/6475 Rajasthan Samwad, Jaipur

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Executive Engineer, Special Buildings Division-I, Public Works Department, Puducherry invites on behalf of the President of India, online bids for the following work(s):

Tender No. **16/SBD1/2025-26, Dt:18/07/2025**. Name of Work: **Construction of two storied office building for Office of the Divisional Fire Officer in the Fire Service Complex, Gorimedu, Puducherry. Estimated Cost Rs.6,60,87,204/-**. (inclusive of GST) EMD: **Rs.13,21,744/-, Period of Completion: 15 (Fifteen) months** (including Monsoon Period),

e-Tender processing fee: **Rs.1500/-** + GST @ 5%, Last date and time for submission of bid is **05/08/2025 4.00 P.M.** The date of tender opening **06/08/2025 10.30 A.M.**

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in.**

No.272/DIP/AD(Press)2025-26 EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited
(Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Upper Bhadra Project Division No. 6, Somaguddu Road, Challakere. Phone/Fax No.: 08195-250307,
e-mail: ubpee06@gmail.com
No: VJNL/UBP/EE/D-6/CLK/TEN.NOTN/2025-26/390-391
DATE: 16.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

The Executive Engineer UBP Division No.06, Challakere, invites the following tenders on behalf of the Managing Director, VJNL, Bangalore under 4701 grants for the below mentioned works.

Name of Work (in Brief):- (1) Providing irrigation facility to 15497.00 Ha under Blocks 9 and filling up of 8 tanks coming under CBC of UBP including SCADA with all accessories, Operation and Maintenance for 5 years (CBC Drip-Package – VIII). Indent No. VJNL/2025-26/IW/WORK_INDENT277
Amount put to tender Amount in Lakhs:- 53494.29
E.M.D. Amount in Lakhs:- 534.95
(2) Providing irrigation facility to 10506.00 Ha under Blocks 11 under CBC of UBP including SCADA with all accessories, Operation and Maintenance for 5 years CBC-Drip-Package – IX (Indent No.: VJNL/2025-26/IW/ WORK_INDENT278).
Amount put to tender Amount in Lakhs:-37806.72
E.M.D. Amount in Lakhs:-378.07

The contractors can download and submit the completed bid documents throught KPP-Portal web site www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in from **16.07.2025** to **16.08.2025** upto 17.30 hours. The pre-bid meeting will be held on **28.07.2025** at 12.00 Noon at Offiice of the Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd., Bangalore. Details such as Qualification of Bidders/Tender conditions/Tender Processing fee etc can be obtained through KPP Portal or from the office of the under signed during the office hours. The tender will be opended on **18.08.2025** at the office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, UBP Division No.6, Challakere through KPP-Portal. Tender accepting authority reserves all the rights to revise, modifiy or cancel the tender at any stage.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/223/2025-26 **Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, Upper Bhadra Project, Division 6, Challakere**

ISTANBUL

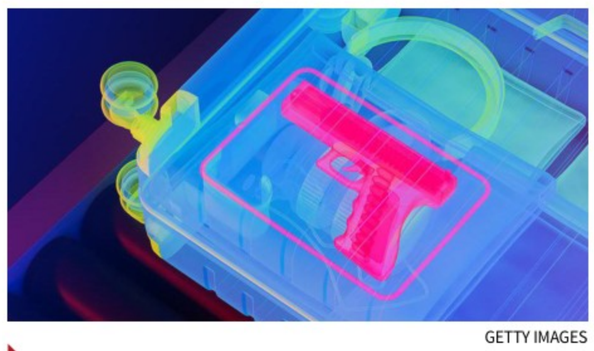
Clashes in Syria a region-wide threat, Erdogan tells Putin

REUTERS

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told Russia's Vladimir Putin that armed clashes in the Druze heartland of Syria were a region-wide threat during a phone call on Friday, his office said. Mr. Erdogan said the clashes after the pullout of Syrian security forces from Sweida "posed a threat to the entire region". AFP

MOSCOW

Russia arrests U.S.-Russian woman accused of trying to smuggle gun



GETTY IMAGES

A Russian-American woman was arrested at Moscow's Vnukovo Airport for attempting to smuggle an American Colt Commander .45 calibre pistol and a $1,38,000 bank check in her suitcase, officials said on Friday. She claimed ignorance of declaration rules. Russia opened a criminal case for firearms smuggling. AFP

BERLIN

Germany deports 81 Afghan nationals to their homeland

AFP

Germany on Friday deported 81 Afghan men convicted of crimes back to Afghanistan, marking the second deportation since the Taliban's return and the first under Chancellor Friedrich Merz's stricter immigration policy. The operation was coordinated with Qatar amid ongoing migration policy tightening in Germany. AP

BRASÍLIA

Brazil's Lula calls Trump's tariff threat 'unacceptable blackmail'

AFP

Brazilian President Lula da Silva on Thursday condemned Donald Trump's threat of 50% tariffs on Brazilian goods as "unacceptable blackmail," criticising interference in Brazil's judiciary regarding former President Bolsonaro's trial. Mr. Lula defended Brazil's sovereignty, warning no foreigner will dictate terms. AFP

Trump seeks to unseal some probe material as Epstein row deepens

Trump also vowed to sue *The Wall Street Journal* and its owner Rupert Murdoch after the newspaper said that in 2003, the future President wrote a raunchy letter to Epstein, referring to their shared 'secret'; the Republican called the letter 'fake'

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump attempted on Friday to control the storm triggered by a bombshell report on his friendship with Jeffrey Epstein, ordering the Justice Department to seek the release of testimony from the prosecution of the late, alleged sex trafficker.

Mr. Trump also vowed to sue *The Wall Street Journal* and its owner Rupert Murdoch after the newspaper said that in 2003 the future President wrote a raunchy letter to Epstein, referring to their shared "secret".

Call for action: People calling for the release of Espstein files participate in a protest in Houston, Texas, on Thursday. AFP

"I look forward to getting Rupert Murdoch to testify in my lawsuit against him and his 'pile of garbage' newspaper, the *WSJ*. That will be an interesting experience!!!" Mr. Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform.

Attorney General Pam Bondi said the Justice Department would ask a court to unseal grand jury testimony from the case against Epstein, apparently in hopes of dampening fury among many of Mr. Trump's most loyal supporters over what they see as a White House cover-up.

Conspiracy theories

Epstein, a financier, was found hanging dead in his cell in New York in 2019 while awaiting trial on charges that sexually exploited dozens of underage girls at his homes in New York and Florida.

The case sparked conspiracy theories, especially among Mr. Trump's far-right voters, about an alleged international cabal of wealthy pedophiles. Epstein's death – declared a suicide – before he could face trial super-charged the narrative. Mr. Trump was friends with Epstein and the two were photographed and videoed together at parties over the years, although there has never been evidence shown of wrongdoing.

The *Journal* reported that Mr. Trump had wished Epstein a happy 50th birthday in 2003 with a letter featuring a hand-drawn naked woman and referring to their "secrets". The letter was reportedly among a slew of well-wishes from other rich and well-known figures for a birthday album.

A furious Mr. Trump said on Truth Social that the purported letter was a "Scam" and "Fake".

Syrian forces set to reenter Sweida as clashes restart

Associated Press
MAZRAA

Fighters from Bedouin tribes near the al-Mazraa village in Sweida, as clashes with Druze gunmen continue on Friday. AFP

Renewed clashes broke out overnight between Druze armed groups and members of Bedouin clans in southern Syria, and government forces were preparing to deploy again to the area on Friday after pulling out under a ceasefire agreement that halted several days of violence earlier this week, officials said.

Government security forces agreed with some of the Druze factions that they would re-enter the area to impose stability and protect state institutions, according to two Syrian officials who spoke on Friday on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak publicly. Bedouin groups arrived on Friday from other areas of Syria to join the fight.

Thousands of people remained displaced by the violence and the United Nations has been unable to bring in much-needed humanitarian and medical aid because of ongoing clashes.

The conflict drew air strikes against Syrian forces by neighbouring Israel in defence of the Druze minority before most of the fighting was halted by a truce announced on Wednesday that was mediated by the U.S., Turkiye and Arab countries. Under that agreement, Druze factions and clerics would be left to maintain internal security in Sweida, Syria's interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa, also known as Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, said on Thursday.

'Europeans have no grounds to trigger snap-back sanctions'

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi told his European counterparts on Friday they have no grounds for reactivating UN sanctions after they threatened to do so in coming months unless there is progress in nuclear talks.

"If EU/E3 want to have a role, they should act responsibly and put aside the worn-out policies of threat and pressure, including the 'snap-back' for which they [have] absolutely no moral [or] legal grounds," Mr. Araghchi said on X. He added that "any new round of talks is only possible when the other side is ready for a fair, balanced, and mutually beneficial nuclear deal".

The remarks came after Mr. Araghchi held a conference call with his British, French and German counterparts.

Last week, Mr. Araghchi had urged the Europeans to play "a constructive role" on the nuclear issue.

Top church leaders enter Gaza in rare solidarity visit after Israel's church strike

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Top church leaders in Jerusalem headed into Gaza on Friday in a rare solidarity visit to the territory one day after an Israeli shell slammed into its only Catholic church, killing three people.

The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Pierbattista Pizzaballa, and Greek Orthodox Patriarch Theophilos III entered Gaza in the morning to express the "shared pastoral solicitude of the Churches of the Holy Land," read a statement released by the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Pierbattista Pizzaballa and Theophilos III alongside clergymen and people during a visit to the Holy Family Church on Friday. AFP

The attack drew condemnation from world leaders and religious figures. The visit by religious leaders Friday marked a rare entrance to the territory by a delegation of outsiders.

With the exception of a trickle of aid workers and a small number of Palestinians needing medical care outside the territory, very few have been able to enter or exit Gaza since the start of Israel's latest offensive in May.

"The Latin Patriarchate remains steadfast in its commitment to the Christian community and the entire population of Gaza. They will not be forgotten, nor will they be abandoned," read the statement from Caritas.

No interim truce without permanent ceasefire: Hamas

Reuters
CAIRO

Hamas' armed wing spokesperson said on Friday that while the group favours reaching an interim truce in the Gaza war, if such an agreement is not reached in current negotiations it could revert to insisting on a full package deal to end the conflict.

Hamas has repeatedly offered to release all the hostages held in Gaza and conclude a permanent ceasefire agreement, and Israel has refused, Abu Ubaida added.

Arab mediators Qatar and Egypt, backed by the United States, have hosted more than 10 days of talks on a U.S.-backed proposal for a 60-day truce in the war that has laid waste to the Palestinian enclave.

As part of the potential deal, 10 hostages held in Gaza would be returned along with the bodies of 18 others, spread out over 60 days. In exchange, Israel would release a number of detained Palestinians.

Sport

Sujeet claims 65kg gold in Budapest ranking series event

WRESTLING

Sports Bureau

Asian under-23 champion Sujeet Kalkal toppled some established names on his way to the 65kg freestyle gold medal at the Ranking Series wrestling event in Budapest.

Sujeet, a Worlds under-23 bronze medallist in 70kg, defeated Paris Olympics bronze medallist Albanian Islam Dudaev 11-0 in the first round before getting the better of European silver medallist Frenchman Khamzat Arsamerzouev 11-0 in the quarterfinals.

The Indian then accounted for the two-time Olympian and 2023 World championships bronze medallist Armenian Vazgen Tevanyan 6-1 in the semifinals. In the final, the 22-year-old Indian – who had picked up a Grade-3 ligament tear in his ankle during the senior Asian championships in March – beat European bronze medallist Azerbaijan's Ali Rahimzade 5-1 to secure his second Ranking Series gold after the one in Tunisia three years ago.

Rahul takes bronze

Rahul (57kg) defeated 2023 European under-23 champion German Niklas Stechele 4-0 for the bronze.

In the women's section, World bronze medallist Antim Panghal (53kg), Neha (57kg) and Harshita (72kg) are also in the race for gold medals.

Standing tall: Sujeet after getting the better of Rahimzade. UWW

All set for MRF National racing c'ship

Sports Bureau
COIMBATORE

The season's opening round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National car racing championship will begin at the Kari Motor Speedway here on Saturday. The compact 2.3 km long circuit with 16 turns, will witness both single-seaters, the MRF F2000 and F1600, Formula LGB 1300 and saloon cars that include Indian Touring Cars (ITC), newly introduced ITC1625, Super Stock and the Indian Junior Touring Cars (IJTC) besides the Volkswagen Polo Cup.

Veteran Chetan Korada from Chennai will make another attempt in the MRF F2000 with a few young guns, notably 16-year-old Ishaan Madesh from Bengaluru.

The MRF F1600 grid has Saishiva Sankaran who made his debut last season with three podiums in six outings after joining the championship for the final two rounds.

Touring cars will be headlined by veteran Arjun Balu, who is returning to the championship after a year's break, driving the Race Concepts prepared Honda City IVTEC. He will contend with last year's champion Biren Pithawalla (Team N1) from Mumbai, who will be racing in a VW Polo.

The ITC1625 class will witness the championship's oldest driver, Vidyaprakash Damodaran from Coimbatore, who will turn 80 in August, in action along with Suprej Venkat.

Secret Saint primed to deliver in Karnataka Police Cup

RACING

BENGALURU: Secret Saint, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Karnataka Police Cup (1,800m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (July 19). False rails (width about 6.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 AMAZING GRACE PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 6-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Flamingo Dream (1) Jagadeesh 61.5, 2. Turkoman (7) Darshan 61.5, 3. Raffles (4) Abhishek Mhatre 61, 4. My Solitraire (8) Antony 58.5, 5. Sacred Creator (6) M. Rajesh K 57.5, 6. Southernaristocrat (5) C. Umesh 57, 7. Embosom (2) G. Vivek 56.5 and 8. Recreator (3) Girish R 53.5.
1. RAFFLES,
2. TURKOMAN,
3. EMBOSOM

2 BOLD GESTURE PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2-35: 1. She's So Beautiful (10) Pavan 62, 2. Totally Epic (1) Abhishek Mhatre 61, 3. Amazing Storm (–) (–) 60.5, 4. Golden Glory (3) Ganesh Shingade 60.5, 5. Wakizashi (4) B. Dharshan 60, 6. Jully (6) Asirvatham 59.5, 7. Absolute Katrina (2) Dhanu S 59, 8. Meghann (8) Laxman S 58, 9. N R I Gold (7) Faiz 57, 10. Golden Gallery (5) G. Vivek 56 and 11. Bourbon Bay (9) Rayan 53.
1. SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL,
2. TOTALLY EPIC,
3. GOLDEN GALLERY

3 YERAVADA STUD PLATE (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 3-10: 1. Booster Shot (1) M. Prabhakaran 62.5, 2. Scarlette Lady (10) R. Robert 57.5, 3. Forest Fragrance (3) Hindu S 57, 4. Dynamic Force (4) C. Umesh 56, 5. Aquastic (7) Trevor 55.5, 6. Stravinsky (2) Angad 55.5, 7. Chardikala (6) Sandesh 55, 8. Disciple (8) Antony 54.5, 9. Mystikos (5) Neeraj 53 and 10. Rieko (9) Sai Kiran 52.
1. AQUASTIC,
2. FOREST FRAGRANCE,
3. RIEKO

4 DR. K.M. SRINIVASA GOWDA MEMORIAL CUP (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-45: 1. Republican Star (10) Koshi K 56, 2. Blue Picasso (9) C. Umesh 54.5, 3. Blue Strom (5) Arvind K 54.5, 4. Husanara (6) Suraj 54.5, 5. ILia (4) Neeraj 54.5, 6. Queendom (1) Vinod Shinde 54.5, 7. Rosaline (8) Antony 54.5, 8. Sanaya (2) Darshan 54.5, 9. Scent Of Rain (3) Trevor 54.5 and 10. Vibrant Queen (7) G. Vivek 54.5.
1. SCENT OF RAIN,
2. HUSANARA,
3. VIBRANT QUEEN

5 KARNATAKA POLICE CUP (1,800m), rated 60 to 85, 4-15: 1. Forseti (3) A. Ramu 60, 2. Secret Saint (4) Trevor 56, 3. Splendido (5) Antony 56, 4. The Leader (2) Neeraj 55 and 5. Victor Hugo (1) G. Vivek 52.
1. SECRET SAINT,
2. VICTOR HUGO

6 AZHAR PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 4-50: 1. Positivity (2) Darshan 62, 2. Domina (4) A. Hangal 61.5, 3. Isabelle (10) Pavan 60.5, 4. Small Dreams (3) Dhanu S 59, 5. Continues (6) Sai Kiran 57.5, 6. Dr Ash (8) M. Rajesh K 57, 7. Imperial Star (1) A.A. Vikrant 56.5, 8. LG's Star (11) G. Vivek 55.5, 9. Lex Luthor (12) C. Umesh 55, 10. Carter (7) Rayan 54, 11. Winfield (9) Antony 53.5 and 12. Woman At War (5) Neeraj 51.
1. COUNTINUES,
2. WINFIELD,
3. SMALL DREAMS

Day's best: AQUASTIC
Double: SCENT OF RAIN – SECRET SAINT
Jkt: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5 and 6.

REPRIMANDED

Pratika given one demerit point, England fined for slow over-rate

AP

India batter Pratika Rawal has been penalised for breaching the ICC Code of Conduct, while England has been fined for maintaining a slow over-rate during the first ODI in Southampton. Pratika was handed a fine of 10 per cent of her match fee and given one demerit point for a Level 1 breach, concerning two separate incidents.

ALL TOO EASY

Henry and Conway shine as New Zealand outplays Zimbabwe

X@ZIMBABWE CRICKET

Matt Henry took three wickets and Devon Conway hit an unbeaten half-century as New Zealand beat Zimbabwe by eight wickets in their tri-series match at Harare Sports Club on Friday. **The scores:** Zimbabwe 120/7 in 20 overs (Henry 3/26) lost to New Zealand 122/2 in 13.5 overs (Conway 59 n.o). **PoM:** Conway. **Toss:** NZ.

BACK FOR DUTY

After stepping down as India head coach, Marquez returns to FC Goa

FILE PHOTO: BISWARANJAN ROUT

After stepping down as the Indian men's football team head coach earlier this month, Spaniard Manolo Marquez on Friday re-joined FC Goa to helm the club for the 2025-26 season. "No one forgets the Don, and the Don never forgets home. Welcome back, Boss," FC Goa posted on its social media handle.

PULLING AWAY

Pogacar extends his lead with uphill time-trial win

AP

Tadej Pogacar won stage 13 of the Tour de France on Friday to extend his lead at the top of the standings to four minutes and seven seconds. Jonas Vingegard and Remco Evenepoel kept their places in the overall top three, but this 10.9km time-trial triumph was defending champion Pogacar's second crushing win in two days.

For Jaiswal, time to take a fresh guard at Old Trafford

The India opener has long training session in the lead-up to the fourth Test after his miss at Lord's following a century at Leeds and a half-century at Birmingham; the left-handed batter's shot selection comes in for criticism

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

As Yashasvi Jaiswal hit the nets at the Beckenham County Ground, India's bowling coach Morne Morkel rushed to the bowling end.

Over the next thirty-odd minutes, the South African bowled to him at regular intervals.

While Jaiswal looked at ease, picking up Morkel's line and length, it seemed to be a planned move to counter Jofra Archer, who dismissed the Indian batter in both innings of the Lord's Test.

Assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate, however, said there were no such plans, and Morkel bowled in the nets since Jasprit Bumrah and Akash Deep took rest.

But after every few deliveries, Morkel walked up to Jaiswal and discussed a thing or two, and even after the former South African pacer went to the other end to monitor the other bowlers, the Team India opener had another long session, facing the local net bowlers. Jaiswal started the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy with a century in Leeds and followed up with an 87 in Birmingham. However, things went awry at Lord's as he struggled to get going and fell to Archer on both occasions - for 13 and zero.

More than the scores, his shot selection in the second innings drew flak. At a time when every run mattered, Jaiswal needed to hold fort.

Going for an ambitious pull against Archer, he ended up offering a catch to Jamie Smith.

Having been beaten by Chris Woakes a few times in the previous over seemed to have rattled him, as he was tempted to go for that pull shot.

While social media went abuzz with fans raising questions about his temperament, former England fast bowler Stuart Broad, too, did not mince words.

"So, Jaiswal getting out, really bad shot, I'm surprised he just didn't look to cut it over the off-side.

"Suddenly England are like okay, we are in. He is the player who moves the scoreboard forward. In a low chase, when you are defending, if you come to bowl and you've got a Sehwag, Warner, the opening batters that can take the game away from you and they up 60 for none or one off ten, the game is sort of done," Broad said on *For The Love Of Cricket* podcast.

This, however, was not the first instance when a poor shot cost Jaiswal his wicket.

At Edgbaston, England captain Ben Stokes lured him into slashing outside the off-stump and he was caught behind.

In the second innings, he was trapped leg before off a Josh Tongue delivery, while attempting a drive.

As *CricViz* data shows, of the 233 runs that he has scored in the series so far, 77 have come through drives, while 51 has been through cuts, while he left 49 deliveries in six innings.

He has fallen twice trying to defend off the backfoot and driving as many times.

With the Old Trafford surface expected to be slightly easy-paced, it will be important for Jaiswal to value his wicket. He looked good in the nets. It's time to walk the talk.

Manchester calling: Jaiswal will be looking to get back to his best. PTI

Lamb lauds Stokes for instilling belief in team

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

Ben Stokes led from the front as England went on to register one of its most thrilling wins against India in recent times at Lord's. As things got tough and India tried its best to seize the initiative, Stokes extracted every bit from his team-mates and ensured the side put up a spirited show to secure a crucial lead in the five-match series.

Former England captain Allan Lamb believes that while England has slowly realised it's important to adopt the horses for courses approach, instead of getting into Bazball mode every time, it's Stokes, who has instilled that belief and a positive mindset in the dressing room.

"When it comes to even chasing 180 on the last day, it is still a big thing in the mind, especially with India losing those wickets the night before. The pressure was always on India. Stokes had motivated the team. I think everything came down to Stokes, because the night before, he was so fired up. He wanted to bowl as he was fired up. And, he got his whole team behind him," Lamb told *The Hindu*.

"They are a team that believes they can win anything. That brought a real positive approach to it..."

Moving on from its Bazball approach, wherein England would invariably ask the opposition to bat first and then chase down a target, the team decided to bat first, and that proved crucial.

"Everyone thinks that England is going to play Bazball. But now, they've learned when the wicket is not right for the Bazball approach, they have to get in. I don't think it was a great wicket at Lord's. It was the right wicket to bat first. It was very difficult to score runs," he said.

And, England eventually managed to win a low-scoring contest. While his captaincy has impressed Lamb, he wants to wait before passing a judgment on whether Stokes is one of the finest skippers to have led England.

"It's a little bit early, but his approach is great," he said.

Rising to the occasion: Stokes has led from the front as England nosed ahead in the series. GETTY IMAGES

Dominant India looks to seal ODI series against England

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Armed with multiple match-winners, India will look to continue its excellent build-up to the forthcoming World Cup when it faces England in the potentially series-deciding second and penultimate women's ODI here on Saturday.

India won the opener at Southampton by four wickets, and a victory at Lord's will give the visitors an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match rubber. This would extend its string of wins in the format in recent times, including the tri-series triumph involving Sri Lanka and South Africa in May.

The games against England carry added significance as they serve as vital preparation for the ICC Women's ODI World Cup, which India will host later this year. With several players delivering standout performances, competition for spots in the World Cup squad is heating up, but this problem of plenty is a happy headache for India coach Amol Muzumdar and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur.

In the absence of pacers Renuka Singh Thakur and Pooja Vastrakar due to injuries, the side preferred Kranti Goud over the slightly more experienced Arundhati Reddy. The 21-year-old showed her mettle with two big wickets in the opener while sharing the new ball with Amanjot Kaur, who is also a rookie.

Even the spin department has plenty of depth with N. Shree Charani joining the likes of Deepti, Sneha Rana and Radha Yadav.

Coming off her Rishabh Pant-like one-handed six during a match-winning half-century in the first ODI, senior all-rounder Deepti will be the cynosure of all eyes on Saturday.

Riding high: The Indian team will look to continue its winning run. REUTERS

The teams (from): England: Nat Sciver-Brunt (Capt.), Em Arlott, Tammy Beaumont, Lauren Bell, Maia Bouchier, Alice Capsey, Kate Cross, Alice Davidson-Richards, Charlie Dean, Sophia Dunkley, Sophie Ecclestone, Lauren Filer, Amy Jones, Emma Lamb, Linsey Smith.

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Pratika Rawal, Harleen Deol, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh (wk), Yastika Bhatia (wk), Tejal Hasabnis, Deepti Sharma, Sneh Rana, Sree Charani, Shuchi Upadhyay, Amanjot Kaur, Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud, and Sayali Satghare.

Match starts at 3:30 p.m. IST.

Inter Kashi is I-League champion after CAS decision

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

The Court of Arbitration for Sport declared Inter Kashi as the new I-League champion by amending the 2024-25 season's final standings, which had Churchill Brothers as the provisional champion.

Inter Kashi approached the Lausanne-based international body after the All India Football Federation's appeals committee overturned a decision by its own disciplinary committee that had initially awarded the former a win against Namdhari FC over a dispute regarding an ineligible player. Taking the decision of its appeals committee, which favoured Namdhari, as final and binding, the AIFF awarded the title to Churchill. The Goa side finished at the top in the final standings after the points were adjusted according to the decision of the appeals committee.

After Kashi approached CAS, the international court in its first ruling on June 17 overturned the appeals committee decision and upheld the disciplinary committee decision that had penalised Namdhari FC for fielding an ineligible player and given full points to Kashi.

The CAS concluded its hearing on the second Kashi appeal – made on June 23 – on July 15 and decided to amend the final I-league rankings by ruling in favour of Inter Kashi.

The AIFF congratulated Inter Kashi on becoming the champion.

CHESS ROUND-UP

Four Indians in last eight

BATUMI (GEORGIA): India will have four players in the quarterfinals of the FIDE Women's World Cup as K. Humpy, Divya Deshmukh, D. Harika and R. Vaishali secured wins in tie-breakers on Friday. Humpy beat Switzerland's Alexandra Kosteniuk 1.5-0.5 in the tiebreaks. She will take on China's Yuxin Song for a place in the semifinals. Divya stunned second-seeded Chinese Zhu Jiner by a similar scoreline. Harika ended the hopes of Russia's Katerina Lagno and will meet Divya in an all-Indian quarterfinal. Vaishali got the better of Meruert Kamalidenova of Kazakhstan. She will take on China's Tan Zhongyi.

Arjun in semis; Pragg bows out of title race

LAS VEGAS: Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi defeated Uzbekistan's Nodirbek Abdusattorov to storm into the semifinals, but R. Praggnanandhaa bowed out of the title race after losing to USA's Fabiano Caruana in the $750,000 Freestyle Grand Slam Tour. Arjun prevailed over Abdusattorov 1.5-0.5 while Praggnanandhaa lost 3-4 to Caruana. In the semifinals, Arjun will meet Levon Aronian.
The American duo of Levon Aronian and Hans Moke Niemann were the other winners in the quarterfinal stage, defeating compatriot Hikaru Nakamura and Javokhir Sindarov of Uzbekistan respectively. In the lower bracket, World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen ousted Vidit Gujrathi 2-0.

On song: Scheffler reeled off three consecutive birdies from the fifth hole. GETTY IMAGES

Charging Scheffler closes in on lead

BRITISH OPEN

Agence France-Presse
PORTRUSH

Scottie Scheffler ignited his bid for a maiden British Open title by surging to within one shot of the clubhouse lead held by 2023 champion Brian Harman and China's Li Haotong at Royal Portrush on Friday. The World No. 1 brushed aside a brief heavy rain shower to pour in four birdies on the front nine of his second round and reach seven-under.

Matthew Fitzpatrick was also four-under on the day through 11 holes and tied at the top alongside Harman and Li.

Rory McIlroy carded a two-under par 69 to reach three-under for the tournament, five strokes off the pace, as he continues his bid for a second Claret Jug.

Scheffler then reeled off three consecutive birdies from the fifth hole, including a 34-foot putt down the hill on the par-three sixth.

Harman started with consecutive birdies before another on the par-five seventh hole took him into the outright lead.

Li is bidding to become the first Chinese man to win a Major championship and he made five birdies in a second consecutive round of 67.

Robert MacIntyre cruised into contention with a 66 to reach five-under.

INBRIEF

Ons Jabeur decides to take a break from tennis

Ons Jabeur is taking a hiatus from the women's tennis tour, with the three-time Major runner-up saying on Thursday that she wants to "rediscover the joy of simply living."

Indian junior shuttlers begin with a bang

India notched up a 110-69 win over Sri Lanka in its Group D clash to kick off its campaign at the badminton Asia junior mixed team championships in Solo, Indonesia, on Friday.

India will next face United Arab Emirates.

ROUND-UP

Jasmine has the last laugh

BENGALURU: A four-under 68 final round helped Jasmine Shekar win the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour 2025 - Leg 9 at Clover Greens on Friday. Jasmine had started the day three shots behind leader Neha Tripathi, who could only manage a two-over 74.

This marked Jasmine's first victory on the tour for this year.

The scores (top four): **207:** Jasmine Shekar (72, 67, 68); **210:** Neha Tripathi (71, 65, 74); **212:** Ridhima Dilawari (74, 71, 67); **213:** Seher Atwal (71, 73, 69).

Easy for Mount Joy

Mount Joy whipped Jayanagar Cricketers by nine wickets in the KSCA women's league.

The scores: Jayanagar Cricketers 53 in 22.4 overs (Divya Shree 3/14, Prajna 4/3) lost to Mount Joy CC 54/1 in 7.5 overs.

Vijaya CC 138 in 28 overs (Vaishnavi Kamath 25, N.P. Sukhi 31, R. Sirisha 3/17) lost to Social Cricketers 139/3 in 22.5 overs (R. Sirisha 33, P. Devika 48 n.o.).

Engrades CC 62 in 24.2 overs (R. Bhumika 5/13) lost to Vultures CC 63/4 in 11.2 overs.

Minerva CC 59 in 22.0 overs (R. Aditi 4/6) lost to Hammonds CC 63/4 in 13.1 overs (Kusuma Nagaraju 27 n.o.).

Bangalore Sports Club 55 in 14.5 overs (H.D. Bhoomika 4/10) lost to Dooravani Cricketers 59/1 in 9 overs.

All eyes will be on Indian Navy in the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup semifinals

Having not yet won the tournament and not being invited last year, the team has re-surged with good results under coach Ajay Kumar

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

In seven previous editions spread over the last 10 years, Indian Railways and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) have won the MCC-Murugappa Gold Cup hockey tournament thrice each.

The two institutional teams have been dominant, have the best players from the country, and have mastered the art of peaking at the right time and absorbing the pressure.

Railways, looking for a hat-trick of titles, will have quite a tough battle against arch-rival IOC in the semifinal to be held here on Saturday. In the other semifinal, Indian Navy will take on Indian Army.

While three teams – IOC, Railways, and Army – have been regulars in the last four stage and have won the tournament earlier, one team hasn't done so, and will be eager to lay its hands on the coveted trophy.

Navy, having not been invited last year due to its poor performance the previous year, has reorganised and recouped under its head coach Ajay Kumar, and has now taken the tournament by storm.

Its performance has been near-flawless as it comfortably defeated Karnataka, Central Board for Direct Taxes, the Malaysian National junior team and former champion IOC in Pool-B.

The manner of its victory over IOC was a lesson in masterclass. Trailing by a goal, Navy blew away a team that has nearly a dozen international players, in a matter of six minutes in the fourth quarter by scoring three goals.

Railways, IOC and Army have been off-colour in the league matches, but one can't take them for granted. Come Saturday, all eyes will be on Navy.

Strong showing: Indian Navy's performance in the league phase has been flawless. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Hyderabad to host women's kabaddi WC

Anirudh Velamuri
HYDERABAD

The second Women's Kabaddi World Cup will take place in Hyderabad from August 3 to 10 at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium. The event was originally scheduled to take place in Bihar in June.

"When Bihar pulled out, we requested the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India to have the event take place in Telangana, and they obliged," Kasani Veeresh, president of the Telangana Kabaddi Association, told *The Hindu*.

"We want to encourage women's kabaddi, even if it doesn't always get many sponsors.

"Hyderabad had hosted the Asian Kabaddi Championship in 2005, and now, 20 years later, the city will be hosting another international women's kabaddi tournament," he added.

Host India and 12 others – Argentina, Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei, Germany, Holland, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Nepal, Thailand, Uganda and Zanzibar – have confirmed their participation, with Poland the only one yet to give the green light.

SNAPSHOTS

Anirudh-Stalder duo enters doubles semifinals

Anirudh Chandrasekar and Reese Stalder of USA beat Manuel Sanchez and Bernard Tomic 7-5, 6-1 in the doubles quarterfinals of the $920,480 ATP tennis tournament in Los Cabos, Mexico.

Other results: €100,000 WTA, Porto: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Estelle Cascino & Carole Monnet (Fra) bt Riya Bhatia & Mariana Drazic (Cro) 6-2, 6-1.

€181,250 Challenger, San Marino: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Siddhant Banthia & Alexander Donski (Bul) bt Inigo Cervantes & Daniel Rincon (Esp) 3-6, 6-3, [10-4].

€91,250 Challenger, Pozoblanco: Pre-quarterfinals: Aryan Shah bt Ryan Peniston (GBR) 6-3, 6-2.

Doubles: Quarterfinals: Inaki Torre (Esp) & Sun Fajing (Chn) bt Robin Bertrand (Fra) & Adil Kalyanpur 6-2, 6-4.

$30,000 ITF men, Louisville: Pre-quarterfinals: Vignesh Gogineni (USA) bt Dhakshineswar Suresh 7-6(2), 6-0.

$15,000 ITF, Hillcrest: Men: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Gerard Henning & Philip Henning (RSA) bt Ishaque Eqbal & Thando Longwe-Smit (RSA) 6-4, 7-5.

Women: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Akanksha Nitture & Soha Sadiq bt Polina Leykina & Paola Lopez (USA) 3-6, 6-3, [10-8].

$15,000 ITF, Nakhon Pathom: Men: Quarterfinals: Thantub Suksumrarn (Tha) bt Sidharth Rawat 6-4, 7-5.

Doubles: Semifinals: Jake Delaney (Aus) & Ryotaro Taguchi (Jpn) bt Sai Karteek Reddy & Tomohiro Masabayashi (Jpn) 3-6, 7-6(4), [10-5].

Women: Quarterfinals: Zeel Desai bt Qiu Yu Ye (Chn) 6-3, 6-0.

$60,000 ITF women, Olomouc: Doubles: Semifinals: Rutuja Bhosale & Wushuang Zheng (Chn) bt Magdalena Smekalova (Cze) & Laura Svatikova (Svk) 2-6, 6-2, [10-8].

Srihari and Benedicton set new marks

Two Indian swimmers, Srihari Nataraj and Benedicton Rohit, set new 'India best' times at the World University Games in Rhine-Ruhr, Germany. Srihari bettered his own time by clocking 1:48.22 in the men's 200m freestyle heats to finish at the top and qualify for the semifinals on Friday.

Previously, he lowered the record in June when he timed 1:48.66 in the Singapore National championships.

Benedicton rewrote the 'India best' time twice for men's 50m butterfly within a day. Benedicton, who had set a new mark (24.11) at the National championships last month, clocked 24.00 in the heats and then lowered it further by timing 23.96 in the semifinals. He was sixth in his leg of the semifinals.

LIVE TELECAST

England Women vs India Women: 2nd ODI, Sony LIV, 3.30 p.m.

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